PUBLISHED MONTHLY—PRICE ANNAS 8.
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats and Daks, Places of Interest—Inland and along the Coast—Postal and Telegraphic Information, &c., &c., with a
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
The Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLISHED THRICE DAILY.

THE Bombay Gazette.

MORNING EDITION.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

LIST OF DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY FOR MARSEILLES & LONDON

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Date of Sailing. Saturday P. M. 1907.	Steamers.	Tons.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons
26th Jan.	EGYPT	7912	CHINA	7912
2nd Feb.	OCEANA	6810		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5284	INDIA	7911
16th "	EGYPT	7912		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	6294	MONGOLIA	9505
2nd Mar.	ARABIA	7903		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5284	BRITANNIA	6595
16th "	PERSIA	7951		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	6294	MARMORA	10509
30th "	CALEDONIA	7538		
6th Apr.	* MACEDONIA	10512		
13th "	CHINA	7912		
20th "	PENINSULAR	6294	MOLDAVIA	9500
27th "	EGYPT	7912		
4th May	ORIENTAL	5284	HIMALAYA	6898
11th "	ARABIA	7903		
18th "	PENINSULAR	6294	VICTORIA	6522
25th "	PERSIA	7951		

* Similar to the preceding and following steamer, the S. S. "MACEDONIA," sailing on the 6th April will proceed direct to Marseilles and London.

The above Steamers convey Passengers to Marseilles, Plymouth and London.

Passengers for Brindisi transhipp to a connecting steamer at Port Said.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with port of destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 12 and 12-30 P.M., for Medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's Steam Barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of Passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

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The Company's Steamers leave Bombay fortnightly, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the Straits, China and Japan, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

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W. C. SYMES,
Superintendent, P. & O. S.N. COMPANY.
BOMBAY, 21*st December*, 1906.

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LONDON AGENTS: GRINDLAY & Co.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels	Tons.	Captains.	To Sail on THURSDAY
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Gombe	24th Jan. 1907.
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	21st Feb. "
DOMBEA	5,686	Boyer	21st Mar. "
SYDNEY	4,118	X	18th Apr. "
ARMAND BEHIC	6,388	Guionnet	16th May "
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Combe	13th June "
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	11th July "

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS.

RETURN TICKETS can be made available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares

TO AUSTRALIA DIRECT AND THE FAR EAST, TRANSHIPPING AT COLOMBO.

Vessel	Tons.	Captain	To Sail on or about
SYDNEY	4,118	X	2nd Feb. 1907.
ARMAND BEHIC	6,388	Guionnet	2nd Mar. "
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Combe	30th " "

For further Particulars apply to

P. DE BURE,
Agent.
Esplanade Road, BOMBAY.

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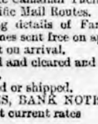

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

DIRECT LINE TO TRIESTE VIA BRINDISI.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on
BOHEMIA	4282	M. Dabcevich	1st February.
IMPERATOR	4140	F. Mosca	16th February.
KOERBER	5301	A. Foresti	1st March.
IMPERATRIX	4315	G. Ghezzo	16th March.
AFRICA	4596	P. Badessich	1st April.
IMPERATOR	4140	F. Mosca	16th April.
KOERBER	5301	A. Foresti	1st May.
BOHEMIA	4282	M. Dabcevich	16th May.
AFRICA	4596	P. Badessich	1st June.

ORDINARY LINE TO TRIESTE.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
* † E. FERDINAND	6046	G. Matcovich	24th January.
* † CHINA	5999	G. Damianovich	3rd March.
* † AUSTRIA	7568	A. Bilaffer	3rd April.
* † VORWAERTS	5990	R. Colleani	2nd May.
* PERSIA	5895	P. Craglietto	26th May.

* Will call at Karachi. † Will call at Fiume.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE, VENICE, and Brindisi are available for two years.

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1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards and other Routes.

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Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
VORWAERTS	5990	R. Colleani	28th January.
PERSIA	5895	P. Craglietto	24th February.

For urther particulars regarding passages apply to the

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Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co,
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

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INTEND TO DESPATCH STEAMERS AS FOLLOWS:—

FOR KARACHI.

Weekly from Victoria Dock Wall No. 14 Shed.

Steamer.	Tons.	Sailing Date.	Time.	Route.—Via.
LINGA	2,170	Mon.	28th Jan.	11 a.m. P. D. & C.*
DWARKA	1,700	Thur.	24th Jan.	9 a.m. Cutch Mandvie.
DUMRA	1,700	Frid.	25th Jan.	10 a. m. (direct).*

* Via Porebunder, Dwarka and Cutch Mandvie.

FOR KARACHI AND PERSIAN GULF (Weekly).

S.S. "BULIMBA," 2,010 tons, on MONDAY, 28th Jan. calling at Karachi, Pasni, Gwadur, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Dubai, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire and Koweit.

FOR KARACHI AND BUSREH (Weekly).

S.S. "DWARKA," 1,700 tons on THURSDAY, 24th Jan. calling (for Mails and Passengers) at Muscat, Bushire, and Mahomera, also taking Passengers and cargo on through bookings to Ahwaz and Bagdad.

FOR COAST PORTS AND CALCUTTA.

S.S. "SIRDHANA," 2,729 tons, on or about 31st Jan.

FOR EAST AFRICA.

Steamers	Tons.	Sailing	Ports of call
PUTIALA	3000	30th Jan.	Zanzibar, Mombasa, Lamu.

FOR RANGOON OR CALCUTTA (Direct).

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Packages of every description received for despatch as Cargo to Messrs. HENRY S. KING & Co., London, or Messrs. KING BAILLIE and Co., Liverpool.

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CALCUTTA:
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

TO JAPAN VIA SINGAPORE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

Vessels	Tons.	Captain.	Arrival.	Departure. 1907.
BOMBAY MARU	...	S. Ishikawa	.....	2nd Feb
CEYLON MARU	...	F. Pyne	4th Feb.	13th Feb.
TOTOMI MARU	...	A. Keith	19th Feb.	2nd Mar.
RIOJUN MARU	...	G. B. Lapraik	5th Mar	16th Mar.
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	19th Mar.	30th Mar.
COLOMBO MARU	...	K. Homma	2nd April	13th April
BOMBAY MARU	...	S. Ishikawa	16th Apl.	27th April
CEYLON MARU	...	F. Pyne	30th Apl.	11th May.
TOTOMI MARU	...	A. Keith	14th May	25th May
RIOJUN MARU	...	G. S. Lapraik	28th May	8th June
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	11th June	22nd June
COLOMBO MARU	...	K. Homma	25th June	6th July
BOMBAY MARU	...	S. Ishikawa	9th July	20th July
CEYLON MARU	...	F. Pyne	23rd July	3rd August

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N.B.—CONSIGNEES of CARGO by the above Line are hereby NOTIFIED that NO CLAIMS for SHORT DELIVERY, DAMAGE, &c., WILL BE ENTERTAINED unless they are sent to the office within ten days after the steamer's arrival. No Survey will be held on cargo warehoused or removed from the Landing Shed

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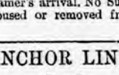

REGULAR SAILINGS from BOMBAY to MARSEILLES & LIVERPOOL,

The following sailings have been arranged:—

Steamers	Captain.	Tonnage.	Date. 1907.
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R.	5124	31st Jan.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	28th Feb.
* BRITANNIA	R. G. Garrick	3069	13th Mar.
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	25th "
CASTALIA	F. S. Blight	6209	6th April.
MASSILIA	J. Thompson	5091	16th "
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R	5124	4th May.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	30th "
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	20th June.

Bombay to Suez . . . . . Rs. 350
Bombay to Port Said. . . . . Rs. 380
Bombay to Marseilles . . . . . Rs. 525
Bombay to Liverpool (all the way by sea). . . . . Rs. 550
Bombay to London overland from Marseilles and including 1st class rail ticket across the Continent . . . R
Bombay to New York . . . . . Rs. 720
Return ticket to Liverpool (all the way by sea) . . . . Rs. 900
Return ticket to London overland from Marseilles and back from Liverpool . . . . . Rs. 950

Steamers marked * Fares Rs. 50 less on return tickets than above
All Return Tickets are available for 2 years
Concession granted to Families. Railway employees, Hospital Nurses, Missionaries, Tea Planters, etc.
Each Steamer carries a duly qualified Surgeon and experienced Stewardess, and is fitted with every comfort.
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THE following Steamers will SAIL:—

Steamers	Tons.	Capt.	To sail.
* GENERAL	2361	Muhlbauer	20th Jan. 1907
REICHSTAG	2085	Ihle	8th Feb. 1907
* SULTAN	2884	Ulrich	22nd Feb. 1907
SOMALI	2055	Birsh	8th Mar. 1907

Taking Passengers and Cargo for LAMU, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR, GERMAN and PORTUGUESE Coast ports, and DURBAN.
* Will carry also cargo and passengers for Cape Ports.
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THE

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FOR JANUARY, 1907.

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THROUGH ROUTES AND FARES FROM

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POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHIC INFORMATION.

STEAM-BOAT AND DAK COMPANIES

PLACES OF INTEREST ALONG THE COAST

A COLOURED MAP OF INDIA

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Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balance if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000, but no interest allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half yearly

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Are received for 12 months and for shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

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SPECIAL RESERVE FOR SILVER FUND	" 1,000,000
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND	" 2,000,000

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"About October of last year I noticed a small round red patch on each of my lower limbs not unlike ringworm. It gradually got so large and irritating that I could not go on with my work in comfort. Finally, sores began to spread all over both of my limbs and the itching and pain was so acute that I consulted a doctor who said the complaint was eczema. He gave me some salve, which I used for several weeks. Instead of improving, however, they got gradually worse and the soreness and itching at last got almost unbearable. I tried all kinds of other ointments which did me no good. One day I happened to see an account of how Cuticura Remedies had cured a case something like my own and I determined to try them. The following day I had less discomfort, and after using the Cuticura Remedies awhile my skin began to heal. The itching and irritation died away and the skin itself assumed a healthier appearance too. Perse

PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

THE Executive Engineer, Thana, will receive at Thana, at 3 P.M., Standard Time, on 2nd February, 1907, Sealed Tenders for constructing a SUB-JUDGES' COURT HOUSE, at Thana. Forms of Tenders and other particulars can be had on payment of Rs. 2 to the Accountant, Executive Engineer's Office, Thana, from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M., save on Sundays, holidays, and the day of receiving tenders.

Probable Value of Works ..... Rs. 31,000
Deposit ..... Rs. 3,100
Earnest Money ..... Rs. 500

2. Form of Tenders will only be sold to each Tenderer separately.

IBRAHIM AHMEDI, L.C.E.F.R.I., B.A.,
Executive Engineer,
THANA DISTRICT.

THANA, 17TH JANUARY, 1907.

THE SOONDERDAS SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS COMPANY LIMITED.
(IN LIQUIDATION.)

THE following SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS were PASSED at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Soonderdas Spinning and Weaving Mills Company Limited, held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 3 Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, on FRIDAY, the 21st, December, 1906, and confirmed as one proposition at a subsequent Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the said Company held at the aforesaid Registered Office of the Company, on SATURDAY, the 19th January, 1907 :—

I. That as it has been proved to the satisfaction of this Meeting that the Soonderdas Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Limited, cannot by reason of its liabilities, continue its Business, it is advisable to wind up same and accordingly the said Company be and is hereby wound up voluntarily.

II. That Mr. Karsondas Dharamasey be and is hereby appointed Liquidator to wind up the said Company at a remuneration of Rs. 500 and

III. That Mr. Karsondas Dharamsey, the Liquidator so appointed, be and is hereby authorised to have and do exercise all or any of the powers conferred upon an Official Liquidator by Section 144, of the Indian Companies Act VI of 1882.

SORABJI C. SETT,
Chairman.

BOMBAY, 19th JANUARY, 1907.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.
Suit No. 388 of 1902.

ABDULLA JUSUB ABBA JAN MAHOMED JUSAB ABBA, a minor by his next friend, the said ABDULLA JUSUB, and SAFFARABAI, widow of JOOSUB ABBA, all of Bombay, (Kutchi Memon Inhabitants, residing at Memonwada outside the Fort of Bombay..... Plaintiffs.

v/s

ISMAIL BEG MAHOMED HAJI AHMED REHMAN, of Bombay, Inhabitant residing at Kasai Moholla outside the Fort of Bombay..... Defendant.

Re costs of Messrs. TYABJI DAYABHAI & Co.

AND

ABDULLA JUSUB ABBA and others.

WHEREAS in pursuance of a Warrant of Sale of Immovable Property dated the 2nd day of October, 1906, the Sheriff has been directed TO SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION at the instance of Messrs. Tyabji Dayabhai & Co., all the right, title and interest of the plaintiffs in the following properties :—

FIRSTLY.—All that piece or parcel of Fazendari land or ground together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house, hereditaments and premises standing thereon, situate at Memonwada without the Fort in the Registration Sub District of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 285 5/9 Square Yards or thereabouts, and bounded as follows :—*i. e.*, on or towards the East by the property of Sir Mangaldas Nathubhai, Knight, C. S. I. on or towards the West by the Memonwada Road aforesaid, on or towards the North by the property of Marwadi Hurnath Rupaji, and on or towards the South by the property hereinafter secondly described and which said hereditaments and premises are now assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates & Taxes under Ward B, No. 586-587, and Street No. 205, and 215, and are now in the occupation of the Plaintiffs and their Tenants.

SECONDLY.—All that piece or parcel of Fasendari land or ground together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house, hereditaments and premises standing thereon situate at Memonwada without the Fort in the Registration Sub district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 60 feet in length and 30 feet in breadth or thereabouts and bounded as follows :—*i.e.*, on or towards the East by the property of Nathubhai Ramdas Sheth, on or towards the West by the Memonwada Road aforesaid, on or towards the North by a Gully and beyond that by a property hereinabove firstly described, and on or towards the South by a Gully and beyond that by the property of Purshotam Ranchord, and which said hereditaments and premises are assessed by the Assessor and Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under Ward B No. 585, and Street Nos. 203-207, and are now in the occupation of the Plaintiffs and their Tenants.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons having rights in or charges or claims on abovenamed properties (other than claims involving an objection to the attachment or seeking the removal of the same) that they should, on or before the 18th day of February, 1907, lodge in my Office a statement verified by oath or solemn affirmation of such rights, claims or charges,—Dated this 24th day of October, 1906.

K. F. MODI.,
Assistant Commissioner.

NOTICE.

ABOUT 2,000 maunds of SANDALWOOD will be SOLD by tender at Tirupatur and Hosur in the Salem District during March 1907. Prospective buyers are requested to address the District Forest Officer, North Salem Division, Salem, when full particulars will be forwarded to them.

B. F. RIGOLD,
Dt. Forest Officer,
North Salem.

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS.

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The Matrimonial Lottery. By Charlotte O'Conor Eccles.
The Car of Destiny. By C. N. and A. M. Williamson.
Saba Macdonald. By Rita.
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Invasion of 1910. By William Le Queux.
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1907
At 9-30 p. m. (S.T.)

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Given by the
CELEBRATED VIOLIN VIRTUOSO
HERR PREMYSLAV.
Assisted by Mrs. LAWRENCE.

PROGRAMME.

1. Concerto G-Minor ..... Bruch.
2. *a* Romance ..... Beethoven.
   b Mennuett ..... Mozart.
   c Perpetum Mobile ..... Reis.
3. *a* Humoresque ..... Dvorak.
   b Hungarian Dance ..... Brahms-Joachim.
   c Serenade ..... Dedir.
4. *a* Nocturne E-Flat ..... Chopin.
   b Zigeunerweisen ..... Sarasate.

Tickets at Rs. 4, Rs. 3 and Re. 1.
Grand Piano kindly lent by Messrs. MARCKS & Co. Ld.,
Plan now open at SEYMOUR DOVE & CO., Piano Saloon, Fort.

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WEDNESDAY, 23rd JANUARY,
SPECIAL PRIZE COMPETITIONS.
THREADING A NEEDLE RACE, NECK-TIE RACE, WHISTLING CONTEST, POTATO RACE, ONE SKATE RACE and RINK BOYS RACE.
GENERAL SKATING from 9 o'clock, SPORTS, at 10-30.
ADMISSION, ONE RUPEE AS USUAL.

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LEARNERS : 8 A.M. LADIES PRACTICE : 10 A.M.
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An outspoken comment on the idiosyncracies of man, with a delightful vein of sarcastic humour.
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The Commons for passion and action : the Lords for picturesqueness.
2. FIRST NIGHTS.
The opening of a new Parliament described.
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Disraeli's last word in the House of Commons was fittingly "Empire"—for its maintenance he had worked and planned, risked and plotted.
4. A LEADING GENTLEMAN :
MR. BALFOUR.
Mr. Balfour in Government and Opposition.
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PROF. JAMES' ELECTRO-TONIC PEARLS

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

BOMBAY, MONDAY EVENING.

Arrivals of Cotton, Wheat and Seeds into Bombay, for the 24 hours ending 6 p.m., on 19th January :

Cotton	13,208	bales.
Wheat	8,041	cwts.
Linseed	367	do
Rape, Rai and Mustard	3,782	do
Gingellyseed	13,215	do
Poppyseed	44	do
Groundnuts	2,732	do
Castorseed	8,500	do
Rice	1,805	do
Myrabolams	3,586	do
Cottonseed	19,934	do
Mowrasod	9	do
Grain	1,169	do
Joowar	728	do
Maize	263	do

There is a slightly steadier tone in the American Cotton markets with an advance of a few points in futures. The week end reports show an increase of 109,000 bales in the visible supply and an increase of 420,000 bales in the quantity in sight. Our local cotton market is easier as the January settlement is proceeding. Export bonus have sold back contracts to the bazaar freely thus easing the position, and at the close there are free sellers for March delivery, with buyers holding off.

Sterling exchange is quite steady. Buyers of Bank paper are scarce and Bank refuse to give any concessions off quoted rates for usance bills. The tone of the money market continues firm with a good enquiry for short fixed deposits at 8 per cent. per annum.

Rupee paper advanced to Rs. 96-13 for next account but closes at Rs. 96-10 sellers.

Shares are quoted as follows :—

Petits	Rs.	3,520
Davids	,,	430
Empress	,,	4,27 1/2
Bank of Bombay	,,	1,362 1/2 X.D.

The following is the weekly statement of the Bank of Bombay, for the last week, as compared with the previous one :—

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Public Deposits	9,39,089	Increase
Other Deposits	18,78,240	Decrease
Sundries	82,327	do.
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	3,48,691	do.
Other Authorized Securities	54,516	do.
Credits on Govt. and other Authorized Securities	4,13,880	Increase
Loans on Govt. and other Authorized Securities	11,77,072	Decrease
Bills Discounted and Purchased Securities	2,05,180	do.
Bullion	26,144	do.
Balance with other Banks	15,88,537	do.
Sundries	32,200	do.
Cash	19,97,406	Increase

The above figures show that the increase in cash balance of twenty lakhs is caused by a decline in trade demand of 6 1/2 lakhs, an increase in Public deposits of 9 1/2 lakhs and a decrease in Banks investments of 4 lakhs.

EXCHANGE.—Tone. Steady.

Bank T. T.	...	1s. 4 5/32d.
Bank Demand	...	1s. 4 3/16d.
Credit Bills 3 Months' Sight D. A.		1s. 4 15/32d.
Do. do. do.		1s. 4 5/8d.
French France 3 m/s D A		172 1/2
Marcks 3 do. do.		141 1/4
Hongkong 30 Days' Sight		160 1/2
Shanghai 30 do. do.		219 1/2
Japan 30 do. do.		148 1/2

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—3 1/2 per cent. Tone quieter,

Cash		96-8
1st Settlement, 31st January		96-10

MONEY MARKET.—Tone firm.

BANK RATE—

Bank of England since	17th	Jan.	5	per cent.
Bank of Bombay do.	13th	Dec.	9	do.
Bank of Bengal do.	6th	do.	9	do.
Bank of Madras do.	15th	Jan.	9	do.

Official quotations of the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Limited:—

	Fine.	F-G	Goods.	Delivery.
Bengals, M. G. (Ry. terms) and ..	189	171	..	Ready.
S. Punjab M G	178	160	..	Jan 25
Comrawattee (descriptions) M-G..	208	190	..	Ready.
Do do	208	190	..	Jan. 25
Khandeish (M-G)	190	184	..	Ready.
Do do	190	184	..	Jan. 25.
Khangaum, (M-G) fair staple				
Karanja (M-G) do	201	198	..	Ready.
Akola (M-G) do	201	198	..	Jan. 25
Yeotmal (M. G.)	221	215	..	Ready.
Do do	221	215	..	Jan. 25.
Nagpur Kamptee (M-G)	225	219	..	Ready.
Do do	225	219	..	Jan. 25
Broach (M.G.)	234	..	207 1-2	Mar. 25
Muttia (M. G.)	185	175	..	Ready.
Do do	185	175	..	Jan 25.
Bengal, M.G.	174	165	..	Ready.
Do do	173	164	..	Jan. 25
Dhamangaum and Poolgaum M-G..	216	210	..	Ready.
Do do	216	209	..	Jan. 25

LIVERPOOL OPENING TELEGRAM.

Tone	steady.
Estimated sales	8,000 bales.
Imports	1,000 ,,

Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-Apl.
5·51	5·46	5·15
plus 4	plus 2	plus2
Apl.-May.	May-June.	June-July.
5·44	5·43	5·43
plus2	plus 2	plus 2
July-aug.	Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.
5·42	5·37	5·32
plus 2	plus 2	plus2

BANK OF BOMBAY.

The following is the Seventy-eighth Report,

The transactions of the half-year have resulted in a net profit of ..... Rs. 8,19,730 1
to which has to be added the balance brought forward from the previous half-year ..... Rs. 2,98,593 3 2
making together ..... Rs. 11,15,382 4 4
which they have decided to apply as under :—
In payment of a Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free from Income-tax ..... Rs. 5,00,000 0 0
Bonus at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum, free from Income-tax ..... Rs. 1,00,000 0 0
Transferred to Reserve Fund. Rs. 2,00,000 0 0
Do. Dead Stock .. Rs. 25,000 0 0
Carried forward ..... Rs. 290,383 4 4
Rs. 11,15,383 4 4

Money was in good demand during the half-year, and rates ruled higher than usual.

The average rate of interest was 5·78 per cent.

Arrangements have been completed for re-opening a Branch at Indore.

During the half-year Mr. D. Gubbay resigned his seat on the Board on his departure from Bombay, and the Directors, under the provisions of Section 39 of the Presidency Banks Act, appointed Mr. S. M. Moses to be a Director in his place.

The following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bombay, for the week ending 12th Jan. 1907, as compared with the statement of 19th Jan. 1907 :—

LIABILITIES.	Jan. 12. Rs.	Jan. 19. Rs.
Capital	1,00,00,000	1,00,00,000
Reserve Fund	84,00,000	84,00,000
Public Deposit at Head Office	45,87,800	50,68,200
Public Deposits at Branches	36,75,571	41,31,804
Other Deposits	8,25,38,429	8,06,60,249
Post Bills	15,680	15,567
Sundries	17,52,987	16,70,656
Rs.	11,19,67,636	11,09,46,725
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	1,38,63,708	1,35,15,017
Other authorised Securities	28,11,788	27,87,242
Credits on Govt. and other authorised Securities	1,28,08,725	1,32,22,605
Loans do. do. do.	2,62,83,679	2,51,06,607
Bills discounted and purchased	2,34,31,081	2,32,26,500
Dead Stock	3,72,116	3,37,416
Stamps and Stationery	4,618	4,338
Bullion	14,06,446	12,82,872
Balances with other Banks	20,61,150	4,78,813
Sundries	3,18,508	2,84,308
Cash	2,74,31,814	2,88,49,320
	11,19,67,636	11,09,46,725

COLONEL BATE, Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals and the Punjab, is going to visit the Medical Schools, Hospitals, and Lunatic Asylums in Agra, Patna, and Calcutta. He starts on his tour in the current month.

THE goods traffic on the B B. and C. I. Railway for the week ending 29th December 1906 shows an increase over the corresponding week of 1905 of 24,243 mds., with a decrease of Rs. 23,760 in the earnings.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and MEMORIAM NOTICES which must be authenticated by the name and address of the senders, is Re. 2 for six lines or less and 8 as. for every additional lines. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

BOMBAY.

DEATH.

BHARUCHA.—January 21, at Bellasis Road, Byculla, next to Messrs. Ludha Ebrahim and Co., in Khan Bahadur Patel's Bungalow, Framjee Dorabjee Bharucha, Solicitor, (Messrs. Payne and Co's) Funeral at 8 a.m. (S. T.) this (Tuesday) morning.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

MARRIAGE.

MOODY—BECKER—January 8, at Christ Church, Rawal Pindi, by the Rev. H. Herbert, Chaplain, Francis Hyde Moody, I. A., youngest son of Harry, Moody, Esq., of Fleet, Hampshire, to Ida, second daughter of Colonel C. T. Becker, R. O. S. B.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 7h. 15m.; Sun sets, 6h. 25m.; High water, 4-59m., 6-49a; Low water, 11-46m., 11-56a.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, ballot for election of Deputy Chairman, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Concert by Herr Premyslav, Town Hall, 9-30 p.m.

POLLING OFFICERS AT THE WARD ELECTIONS.—The following gentlemen will officiate as Polling officers at the Municipal ward elections :—A. Fort ward—Mr. Byramjee Dorabjee Banajee, Collector and Assessor. B. Mandvi ward—Mr. Sorabjee Bomonjee Master, head of the Refund and Audit department. C. Bhuleshwar ward—Mr. W. Waite, Chief Accountant. D. Girgaum ward—Mr. V. Shete, Assistant to the Commissioner. E. Byculla ward—Mr. L. W. Michael, Superintendent of Licenses. The polling commences at 9 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m., (Bombay Time).

POSTAL NOTICES.—Superscribed mails for Ceylon, Singapore, China, and Japan per s.s. "Colombo Maru" will be closed at the General Post Office at 12 noon to-day (22nd inst.) instead of yesterday. Parcel mail for Japan closes at 11 a.m., (22-1-07.) A mail for Egypt and Europe consisting of letters and packets specially marked for transmission per Messageries Maritimes s.s. "Ville de Lacistat" will be made up at the Bombay General Post Office for despatch to destination at 9 a.m. on 24th instant. Letters, &c., for Aden will also be despatched by this steamer.

BAND AT THE ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.—By kind permission of Lt.-Colonel J. S. MacNiel and officers of 1st Battalion the G.I.P. Ry. Volunteer String Band will play the following programme of Music under the direction of Mr. A. Mallandane, Bandmaster, commencing at 6-15 p.m. to-day.

March	Under Freedom's Flag
Overture	Barbier De Seville
Grand Selection	Cavalleria Rusticana
Lancier	Two Little Comrades
Selection	Haddon Hall
Valse	Auf Gutten Tinten
Two Step	Mumblin Moss

Synopsis No 1 Anfang auf Sicilian", No 2 Alfios Lied, No 3 Romance and Duett, No 4 Intermezzo Sinfonico, No 5 Trink-liedbis Schluss.

CAVE CANEM!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The letter of "Business" in your issue of to-day, proposing to let a mad dog loose in the Municipal Hall of Bombay during a meeting is excellent; his idea ought to be tried. It suggests a picture well worthy of the artist of *Hindi Punch* : Scene I.—The Corporation Hall—Members all standing on the table, or trying to get on, and yelling for Dr. Turner and the Police, while the dog skips around and takes a playful bite here and there. Scene II.—On the main stair—Corporators descending in heaps, and already convinced that, for the safety of the city, all ownerless dogs must be destroyed as soon as possible.—Yours, etc.,

MORE BUSINESS.

INDIAN CROP PROSPECTS.

BURMA RICE.

Summary of the rice-crop forecasts for the month of December.

The area under rice cultivation in the 15 principal rice-producing districts is now reported to be 6,988,555 acres or 92,613 acres less than the area reported last month. The decrease is entirely due to the figures for Tharrawaddy, having been wrongly reported last month. There are small increases in most other districts.

The crop is now being reaped and prospects are good. Improved anna estimates are reported form Kyaukpyu, Hanthawaddy (slight) Thrrawaddy, Prome, Ma-ubin, Henzada, Toungoo and Thaton. The surplus available for export is now estimated at 2,374,000 tons of cargo rice, equivalent to 40,237,000 cwts. of cleaned rice.

[On an average of the five years ending 1904-05 the area under rice in the territory to which this forecast relates has represented some 9·7 per cent. of the total area under rice in British India.]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ORDERS.

"Gazette of India," January 19.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

The services of Mr R Barn, of the Indian Civil Service, Editor of the Imperial Gazetteer for India, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of the United Provinces, with effect from the date of termination of the period of his deputation in connection with Gazetteer revision.

Mr C Fisher has been permitted to resign Civil Service, with effect from the 11th September.

The services of Mr C A Innes, of Indian Civil Service, are placed at the Disposal of the Dept of Revenue and Agriculture, with effect from the 15th February.

The Hon Mr S Ismay, CSI, has been permitted to resign H M's Indian Civil Service, with effect from the 18th November.

The services of Capt W V Coppinger, M D, IMS, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal, with effect from the date on which he is relieved of his appointment as officiating Civil Surg, Mymensingh.

The services of the following officers are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Eastern Bengal and Assam, with effect from the 16th October.

Lieut-Colonel R N Campbell, MB, IMS, (Bengal) Major D R Green, MD, IMS, (Bengal), Capt S Andertson, M B, IMS, Capt T H Delany, M D, I M S, and Capt H Innes, M B, I M S.

The undermentioned officers whose services have been replaced at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal by the Home Dept notifications noted against their names, were employed under the Govt of Eastern Bengal and Assam, from the 16th Oct 1905 until the dates on which they were relieved of their duties in that province :—Lieut-Col J G Jordan. MB, IMS, Bengal), dated the 13th Sept; Major W D Hayward, M B, IMS (Bengal) dated the 19th Oct Capt W V Coppinger M D, IMS, dated the 18th January.

The services of Capt J E Clements, M B, IMS, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Govt of the Punjab for employment in the Jail Department.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr P G Jacob is posted as Asst Accountant Genl, Bengal, with effect from 15th January.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr A C Polwhele, Exec Engr, 1st Grade, United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, is appointed to officiate as a Superintending Engineer, with effect from the 7th January and until further orders.

Mr W B Gordon, CIE, Superintending Engineer, 1st class, temporary rank, supernumerary, United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, is, on return from service under the Govt of Cape Colony, permanently transferred to the Punjab.

The services of Major S H Powell, R E, are replaced at the disposal of the Army Dept, with effect from the forenoon of the 16th December.

ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Noel G B Kirwan and J Hotton Robinson, Gentlemen, to be 2nd Lieuts in the Infy Branch of the Indian Army Reserve of Officers.

The promotion of Capt Arthur Ward, 30th Punjabis, to the rank of Major has effect from the 18th October.

Major Charles Cecil Archibald Sillery, Indian Army, has been permitted to retire from the Service, with effect from the 10th March.

Major Thomas teward Barton, Indian Army, is permitted to retire from the service, with effect from the 1st March.

The undermentioned departmental commissioned officers are permitted to retire from the service, with effect from the dates specified:—Deputy Commisary and honorary Capt Alfred Stoddard, Supply and Transport Corps.—18th January, Senior Asst Surgeon and honorary Capt Joseph Sampson, ISMD. Bombay.—28th Dec. Senior Asst Surg and honorar Capt Andrew Lyon Mercado, SMmD Bombayn—16th December.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

HIGH COURT.

DAMAGES CLAIMED FOR A LIBEL.

Hearing of an Appeal.

In the Appeal Court on the Original Side of the High Court yesterday, the Hon. the Chief Justice and the Hon. Mr. Justice Chandavakar heard an appeal, in the case of William G Whyte, against F. H. De Brito, filed by the plaintiff and appellant, Mr. Whyte, from a decision of the Hon. Mr. Justice Russell given on the 13th August last. The hearing of the appeal was commenced before the Chief Justice and the Hon. Mr. Justice Beaman in December last, but was left unfinished owing to the illness of the latter. It was commenced *de novo* before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Chandavarkar yesterday. Mr. Inverarity and Mr. F. Sorabjee Taleyarkhan, instructed by Messrs. Kanga and Patel, appeared for the plaintiff and appellant; Mr. Whyte, and Mr. Jinnah and the Hon. Mr. Setalvad, instructed by Messrs. Raghavaya, Bhimjee, and Nagindas, appeared for the defendant and respondent, Mr. Brito.

The plaintiff sued in the court below to recover from the defendant the sum of Rs. 7,000 as damages for the publication by the defendant and respondent of a libel contained in a letter dated 27th February 1906. The plaintiff is an assistant in the firm of Messrs. Glade and Co. in Bombay, who are the agents of the Magdeburg Fire Insurance Company, and the plaintiff acted under a power of attorney in this branch of Glade's business, as that firm do other kinds of business as well. In the year 1903, the defendant, at the instance of the plaintiff, was appointed an agent in Bombay of the Magdeburg Fire Insurance Company, and the company granted a power of attorney; and Glade and Co. on behalf of the Magdeburg Company, entered into a contract with the defendant, the important clause of which, clause 3, said:—The agency cash, which is to be kept safely and separate from other money, is to be considered and treated as trust monies, in respect to which the agent (i. e. Mr. Brito) has no right of property. It is therefore not to be used for any purpose foreign to the company. The ordinary course of business was accordingly carried on as between plaintiff and the defendant, the latter getting fire insurances, sending his accounts to Glade and Co, for every month, crediting them with the premium he received, and debiting his commission which was 25 per cent. In the course of business, as Mr. Justice Russell remarked in *his judgment in the case, his dealings* were intended to be through Glade and Co, with the Magdeburg Company, the defendant had never had any thing to do *with Mr. Glade. It was admitted that all his insurance* dealings were with the plaintiff; and it seemed to Mr. Justice Russell, therefore, that there would be nothing unnatural or incredible in Mr. Brito's addressing the plaintiff as manage of the Magdeburg Company. *In February 1905, defendant lent* plaintiff Rs. 2,000 on promise of his repaying him 2,050 at the end of the month. The cheque for Rs. 2,000 was borrowed by plaintiff for his father-in-law, Mr. G.G. Craig. Plaintiff said he did not tell the defendant for whom he borrowed, for the reason that if he had mentioned Mr. Craig's name to defendant, he would not have got the money at all. His Lordship went through the details of the circumstances under which the loan was made, and which have already appeared in these columns in connection with the former hearing of the appeal. On the 19th February 1906, Glade and Co. cancelled the defendant's agency. It appeared, however, that the defendant sent in an insurance on the Berar Mills, and the plaintiff wrote on the 23rd February 1906, declining to *issue the covering note* unless the cheqe was first sent to them. Upon this the defendant wrote a very indignant, not to say improper, letter threatening the Plaintiff with showing up his frauds to the home office and Glade and Co. On the 27th February 1906, the Defendant wrote a letter to Glade and Co., endorsing copies of letters: he said he had that day posted home "re your Mr. Whyte." One of those was a letter dated 27th February, which was the defamatory letter complained of. That letter, Mr. Justice Russell said, was plainly defamatory of the Plaintiff in his business, and charged him with fraud. It also said that the Plaintiff tried to send the Defendant a promissory note which the latter refused. The view Mr. Justice Russell had taken of the case was that the Plaintiff, on the 27th February, 1905, did make use of the Defendant to get money from him out of a banking account, in which defendant's own monies and trust monies of the company in his hands were mixed up, and did for his own purposes make use of those monies, and deliberately concealed from the defendant the name of the person for whom those monies were intended. But the defendant had not fully proved the justification he had pleaded, which he must do to get a decree in his favour. Mr. Justice Russell found for the plaintiff on the general issue, and awarded him one rupee as damages. Both parties were directed to bear their own costs throughout.

For the appellant, Mr. Whyte, it was urged that the Judge of the Lower Court was wrong in finding that Rs. 2,000 were borrowed by the plaintiff from the defendant under circumstances which led the defendant to believe that they were not for the plaintiff personally. The Judge should have held that the plaintiff borrowed from the defendant Rs. 2,000 as a personal loan repayable a month later. It was further urged that the Judge erred in finding that the promissory note for Rs. 2,050 was passed to the defendant as agent of the Magdeburg Fire Insurance Company, and in finding that the sum of Rs. 2,000 was paid to the plaintiff as M. M, F. I. (or bearer.) It was contended that the judge erred in finding that the defendant altered the said cheque by filling up the words after "M. M, F. I, thej udge should have held that the defendant altered the cheque and fabricated it intentionally by inserting the words "manager of Magdeburg Fire Insurance Company" after the name Mr. G. Wyte, Esq; and that he erred in not attaching due importance to the fabrication of the cheque and to the suppression by the defendant of the cheque and its counterfoil. It was further urged that the Judge should have demanded the plaintiff substantial damages, and should have directed the defendant to pay the plaintiff's costs of the suit, etc.

The hearing of the details was proceeded with.

For these reasons we hold that the Full Court rightl decided it had no jurisdiction and the rule must therefore be discharged with costs.

EJECTMENT OF A SHOP.

Reference from the Small Causes Court.

THEIR Lordships the Hon'ble Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.P Khareghat disposed of in appeal a reference from the decision of the Full Bench of the Small Cause Court.

The applicant in this case was the original defendant, Ramkrishna Sitaram, the opponent being the original plaintiff, Haji Dawood Esmail. Mr. Sorab B. Dadyburjor appeared for the applicant, and Mr. A. G. Desai represented the opponent.

The circumstances of the case were that plaintiff (opponent) filed a suit before the learned Fifth Judge of the Small Cause Court to eject him from a shop when the applicant (defendant) contended that plaintiff had no right to bring the suit. The Judge after taking evidence decreed the plaintiff's claim, and ordered the applicant to vacate the shop. Against this decree, the applicant moved the hull Bench of the Small Cause Court which refused to entertain his application on the ground it had no jurisdiction. Aggrieved by this order, he appealed to the High Court and the following is the full test of the judgment delivered on the 18th instant by their Lordships.

The question arising on this rule is whether the Small Cause Court can take action under section 38 of the Presidency Small Cause Court Act in reference to an order passed in a proceeding under chapter VII. of the Act. Section 38 defines the conditions on which the Small Cause Court has jurisdiction : It is "where asuit has been contested" and according to the explanation to the Section "every suit shall be deemed to be contested in which the decree is made otherwise than by the consent of or in default of appearance by the defendant."

In this case the full court has held that the condition has not been satisfied, and this is in accordance with the view that has prevailed in that Court for the last 2 or 3 years.

Throughout the Act, a destinction is drawn between a suit and a proceeding and the language of the explanation to section 14, added by Act I of 1895, section 6, assumes that a proseeding under chapter VII is not a suit, except so far as thereby expressly provided.

In our opinion therefore, a proceeding under chapter VII is not a suit within section 38. Nor does the matter rest there. A proceeding under chapter VII results, not in a decree, but in an order. Whereas under the explanation a suit shall be deemed to be contested in which the decree is made otherwise than by consent of, or in default of appearance by the defendant, The condition, therefore, on which the Small Cause Court can interfere under section 38 does not arise on a proceeding under Chapter VII. It may be that this leads to inconvience and the language of Section 36 suggests that this consequence was not contemplated, that however does not justify a departure from the plain words of the Act. If the defect calls for a remedy must be otherwise than by a decision by the Court,

SMALL CAUSES COURT.

A FALSE PROMISSORY NOTE.

HIS Honour, the learned Fourth Judge, Mr. J. E Modi, disposed of a suit filed by Sanbajeetha and others against the defendant, Lakshaman Maruti, to recover from him Rs. 90, being the amount of a promissory note together with interest at seventy-five per cent., per annum. Mr. D. D. Mullah appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant being represented by Mr. H. K. Suntoke.

It seems that in this case plaintiffs had obtained an *Reparte* decree against the defendant, and then in execution of that decree, levied an attachment against the defendant's goods, when the defendant paid the amount under protest. He then made an application for retrial alleging that the summons had not been served upon him and that he had not passed the Promissory note in question. The learned Judge at the hearing of the rule nisi made it absolute against the plaintiffs, and the case therefore came on hearing for a new trial.

The allegation of the plaintiff were that the defendant's mother-in-law died indebted to them and after her death, the defendant took an Havala to pay the same and thus passed the Promissory note. The Pronote purported to be one *marked* by the defendant instead of having *signed*, as the plaintiff stated that the defendant did not know how to write.

The defendant denied this allegation about the Havala, and contended that he knew how to write and did not put any mark to any Pro-note in favour of the plaintiffs. In support of this contention, Mr. Suntoke, on behalf of his client, produced certain creditors from whom his client had borrowed loans, and to whom he had passed pro-notes on stamped paper bearing his signature and not a mark, as would be in the case of a person who did know how to write his name.

The learned Judge was satisfied from the evidence that the defendant knew how to write and did not pass the pro-note in question to the plaintiffs. He therefore dismissed the suit and awarded to the defendant his professional costs.

SUIT AGAINST THE OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE.

AT the Small Causes Court, before his honour the learned Second Judge, Mr. *Donald*, a suit was instituted by one Mangesh Nachar Nadkarni, against the defendant, Mr. N. C. *MacLeod, Official Assignee*, for the recovery of Rs. 99, being damages sustined by reason of the defendant having dismissed the plaintiff from his appointment as a clerk in the non-pensionable permanent establishment of the Official Assignee's Office. Mr. K. K. Suntoke appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant being represented by Mr. Cowasji Setna.

Some discussion occurred on a preliminary point that notice under section 424 of the C. P. Code was required for the Official Assignee being sued. Mr. Suntoke, on behalf of his client, contended that such a notice was not necessary, and that Mr. *MacLeod* was sued not in his capacity as a Public Officer, but in his personal capacity, under the law of Master and Servant. The learned Judge, however, held that a notice, under Section 424 of the Code, was necessary, and that the one sent by the plaintiff, asking for his client's salary from January to August, 1906, was no notice within the requirements of the section.

The suit was, therefore, dismissed with costs.

SUIT BY A BENAMIDAR.

HIS honour the learned Third Judge, Mr. Hakim, disposed of a suit presented by one Ramachandra Mahadev, against the defendant Shanta Ram, for the recovery of Rs. 125 being the amount due on a Promissory note. Mr. Korgawkar appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant being represented by Mr. Vijayakar. The latter on behalf of his client contended that the plaintiff was a benamidar and the money on the Promissory note was not borrowed from him, but from one Jankibai who is really entitled to file this suit and recover the money and that this suit should not lie at the instance of the plaintiff.

Mr. Korgawkar, on the other hand, alleged that under the Negotiable Instruments Act, the holder of the Pronote was entitled to sue and since the name of the Plaintiff appeared in the Pronote the contention of the defendant was frivolous. Ultimately, after further arguments on both sides, Mr. Vijayakar agreed to abide by the path of the plaintiff that if he were to swear that he had lent and advanced money in dispute to the defendant, he would submit to a decree. Accordingly the learned Judge gave a decree in favour of the plaintiff with costs, Rs. 15 being certified as Professional costs of the plaintiff's pleader

SUIT ON A PROMISSORY. NOTE.

Rule of Damdupat.

HIS honour the learned Fifth Judge, Mr. Javeri, disposed of a case in which one Muroba Harichand sued the defendants Moroo Janardhan and another for the recovery of Rs. 44, being the amount of interest due on a bond for Rs. 150, passed by the defendants to the plaintiff. Mr. H. K. Sunloke appeared for the plaintiff, the defendants being represented by Mr. S. S. Mulgaokar.

The Plantiff's case was that the said bond was passed by defendants and made payable within 15 months; that defendants had paid Rs. 150, the principal due on the bond, but the interest remained unpaid throughout.

Mr. S. S. Mulgaokar, on behalf of the defendants, contended that the interest was not recoverable on account of the rule of Damdupat, because the whole of the principal money was paid up. As nothing was due for the principal, nothing was claimable for interest.

After some argument on the point, the learned Judge passed a decree for plaintiff and made the same payable by instalments.

POLICE COURT.

A DISHONEST GOLDSMITH.

At the Esplanade Police Court, Bombay, yesterday, Mr. Kursondas Chabildas disposed of the case in which Punamchan Khema, a Marwari shroff, charged Ganda Lakhman, a goldsmith, with criminal breach of trust in respect of two gold ornaments of the value of Rs. 600. Mr. Chunilal H. Setalwad, Barrister at law, with Mr. Kanga, pleader, prosecuted, while Mr. F. P. J. Talyarkhan, Barrister-at-law, with Mr. Kapadia, pleader, defended the accused. The case for the prosecution was that on the 6th instant the accused took away the ornaments from complainant's shop on approval, promising to return them the following morning if they were not approved by the customer. He failed to turn up the next day, and, as his shop was found to be closed a report was made to the police. On the 13th, one Pragji was noticed offering the ornaments for sale in the shroff bazar at Moombadevi. The complainant identified them as his own and made Pragji over to the Police. It was found on inquiry that the accused had given the ornaments to a woman, named Jamnabai, and the latter in her turn gave them to one Kalidas, master of Pragji, for sale. The accused was subsequently arrested. The defence was that the accused had purchased the ornaments and not taken away on approval. The Magistrate convicted the accused and sentenced him to six weeks' rigorous imprisonment.—There was a similar charge against the accused in respect of a pair of silver anklets of the value of Rs. 110, the property of one Pranjivandas Bhanjibhai. In this case also the accused was convicted and sentenced to six weeks' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 110 or in default to undergo two months further rigorous imprisonment. In the event of the fine being recovered, the whole amount was ordered to be paid to complainant as compensation.

HIGH COURT.—JAN. 22.

Before the Hon'ble the CHIEF JUSTICE and the Hon'ble Mr Justice CHANDAVARKAR.

For further hearing.

1447-Captain and V—Nawab Syed Alikhan vs Samuel Fitze and Co. Ltd—S B and Noble.

Appeals for hearing and final disposal

1446—Kanga and P—William Gerald Whyte vs F H de Britto—Raghavaya B and N

1418—Tyabji D and Co—Raja Goculdas Khushalchand and others vs Pranoo Dewal and others—Thakurdas and Co

1440—Thakurdas and Co—Haridas Bhimji vs Dhunjibhoy B Petit—Ardeser H Dand Co

1442—Unvala and P—Jehangir Byramji and others vs Aravoyal Armuga Sabapathy Moodeliar—Daphtary F and D

1450—Kanga and P—Bai Dinbai vs Bai Ruttonbai widow—Wadia G and Co

1452—Tyabji D and Co—Jiva Alias Motilal Dwarkadas vs Bai Ruttonbai widow—Wadia G and Co
Reference from the Bombay Court of Small Causes.

1,154-06—Madhavji K and C—Shamji Shivji and another vs Vadilal Virchand

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice RUSSELL.)

Suits for hearing and Final Disposal
Short Causes.

719-01—Bhaishunker K and G—Lachminaryan Makhanlal and others vs Balabux Ganeshdas and others

733-02—Ardeser H D and Co—Ardeser Framji and others vs Haji Ebrahim Haji Vayadina

537-05—In Person—Pertab Amichand and others vs B C Mawson

537-06—Maliri H M and R—Chunilal Purbhudas and another vs Budhsen Vishram

697-06—Captain and V—Mahadeo Narayen vs Manaji Cooverji Rajshirker and another—Mirza and M

775-06—Wadia G and Co—Rowji Shukulchand the firm vs Bai Nanibai widow and another

781-06—Wadia G and Co—Bomanji Framji Wadia and others vs Abdulali Hakimali

785-56—Captain and V—Haji Noor Mahomed Cassam Mitha vs Cowasji Jehangir Mody and others

786-06—Payne and Co—The Swadeshi Mills Co Ltd vs E S N Talati and Co the firm

802-06—Pestonji B and K—Jamsetji Framji Khatau vs Bai Fatmabai widow and others
Undefended New Long Cause.

76-06—In Person—Laxmibai vs Mangloobai widow and another
Long Causes.

611-05—Mirza and M—Haji Noor Mahomed Cassum vs N C Macleod—Unwalla and P
For evidence and Argument.

565-91—Khan Bahadur bin Akber Alli and another vs Khan Bahadur Mirs Abdulally and others—Ardeser H D and Co
Long Causes.

120-06—Bhaishunker K and G—Narandas Ramji; and another vs Narandas Ramji and others—Wadia G and Co

129-06—Tyabji D and Co—Vallubhdas Khmji vs Cullisey Jairam and others Dikshit, D and S

644-02—Little and Co—Thomas Joseph Strangman vs Luckmidas Hoorldas and others—Chitnes and M

554-04—Tyabji D and Co—Shridhar Gopinath vs Pragnaram Shankerpershad and another—Hiralal and T.

211-01—Hiralal and T—Goverdhandas Harprasad vs Shridhar Gopinath Tyabji D and Co.

180-01—Wadia G and Co—Kanji Hunsraj vs Keserwalu widow—Edgelow G and W

581-04—Madhavjiand K—Vellai vs Cullianji Syngjibhai and others Bhaishunker K and G and Little and Co

97-01—Tyabji D and Co—Sukhanand Gurumukhrai and others vs Chandrabhai Moolchal and others—Payne and Co

866-05—Maganlal J and G Krishnaji Malcojee vs Haji Ismail Hassam and others—Payne and Co

150-06—Payne and Co—N E Macleod vs Hormusji Nuserwanji Ghiesta and others—Thakurdas and Co

807-06—Payne and Co—Haji Jackeria Haji Ahmed and others—vs Hormusji Nuserwanji Seervai and others—Khunderao Land L

586-04—Little and Co—Goverdhandas Goculdas Tejpal vs Khimji Jairam Narouji—Thakurdas and Co

Before the Hon Mr Justice CHANDAVARKAR and the Hon Mr Justice BATTY.
For Judgem nt. at 3 p m

1144—Payne and Co—Sulleman Somji vs The Bank of Bombay—Crawford B and Co

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice DAVAR.)

Summary Suit for hearing in Chamber.

1-07—Matubhoy J and M—Ruttonli Marwanji Cheesgal and Co vs R S N Talati and Co
Testamentary Suits

12-05—Smetham B and N—Narayen Kashinath vs Harischandra Pandharinath—Tyabji D and Co.
For disposal of Chamber Summons

576-01—Wadia G and Co—Chabildas Lalcobhai vs Dayal Mowji and others—Kanga and P

13-06—Chitnis and M Moroba Dhanji and others vs Harischand Gopal—In person

14-06—Mirza and M—Tithalji Meghjee and another vs Valji Toolshi—Hiralal and T
Long Causes.

603-05—*Little and Co—The Bombay Cloth Market Co Ld* vs Jugonnath Dewji—Mirza and M

183-06—Madhavji and K—Gordhandas Motarji vs Mehran Manisdian and another

271-06—*Mulla and M—

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NOTIFICATION.

ADVANCE IN PRICE.

OWING to the very great rise in Price of all raw materials and labour for higher wages, Messrs. SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE, the celebrated Stuttgart Pianoforte Manufacturers, have been compelled, and very reluctantly, to notify us their Indian Agents, of the fact of their decision to increase the prices of the various models of pianos which they specially manufacture for the Climate of India.

Messrs. SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE maintain that even the small increased cost is more than compensated for by the comparatively superior quality of their pianos of which they have so consistently supplied the public of this country for over 60 years.

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NOTICE.

LETTERS, PARCELS and TELEGRAMS for HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, J. H. DuBOULAY, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S., Private Secretary, Major F. LEE, Military Secretary, which CANNOT BE DELIVERED at GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Bombay, by 8 p.m. on 22nd January, 1907, should be addressed "BOMBAY GOVERNOR'S CAMP" without the addition of any Post Town until the 2nd February, 1907, when they should be addressed to GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BOMBAY.

J. H. DuBOULAY,
Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay.
Dated Bombay, 20th January, 1907.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All communications of a literary character should be addressed to THE EDITOR, and all communications regarding Advertisements and Business matters generally should be addressed to the GENERAL MANAGER. Comunications should not be addressed to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette.

TUESDAY, JAN., 22, 1907.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

THE mail brought us an enormous budget of articles and letters on the subject of the Channel Tunnel. We are glad to find that the bulk of these confirms our view that the political dangers of such a work are over-estimated and that there need not be such cries of alarm over it as we have heard. We should destroy our best safeguard, it is said, by putting an end to our isolation. We should require conscription to raise a sufficient military force to defend the English end of the tube. Lord Wolseley's views are solemnly quoted—and more than those of Lord Wolseley. A correspondent has sent us a great collection he has gathered both from soldiers and the press. Lord Napier of Magdala thinks the point is not the possibility of an invasion through the Tunnel, but of giving the invader, who under present conditions would have no secure communication for reinforcements and supplies a chance of seizing the tunnel and with it the enormous advantage of a line of communication that could not be interrupted by our fleet. Lord Wolseley does not seem quite so sympathatic as formerly, while military correspondents generally are less decided in their views. The Military Correspondent of the *Times*, urged that from a soldier's point of view the construction of a tunnel is only admissible if the Government create a national army of the modern stamp, turn Mr. Haldane's dreams into realities and take such other measures that the British entrance of the tunnel as the art of the engineer may dictate when the detailed plans are known. The art of the engineer, he adds, "must have fallen very low if a fair degree of protection for the entrance on our side cannot be provided, but the concluding paragraph of the Alison report holds good and it remains true that absolute security cannot be assured in even imaginable contingency." That Committee, in 1882, advised that the tunnel should not emerge within any fortification, but that its exit, as well as the air-shafts and pumping apparatus, should be commanded by the advanced works of a fortress. They thought that it was undesirable that the end of the tunnel should be within effective range from the sea. They advised that there should be means of closing the tunnel by a portcullis, and also of discharging irrespirable gases into it; that there should be power to produce a temporary demolition of the land portion of the tunnel by means of mining; and that sluices should allow the tunnel to be temporarily and permanently flooded by mines which should open a direct communication between the bottom of the sea and the tunnel. They thought that mechanical arrangements required for temporary obstructions should be controlled from different points within the fortress, and those for permanent destruction not only from the central work of the fortress, but also from one or more distant places which should have independent connexion with the mines. They considered that neither of the schemes before them fulfilled these conditions and that they could not consequently be recommended. The Committee concluded that "it would be presumptuous to place absolute reliance upon even the most comprehensive and complete arrangements which can be devised, with the view of rendering the tunnel absolutely useless to an enemy in every imaginable contingency."

We agree that the art of the engineer must have fallen very low if he cannot provide a fair degree of protection. But there are many others who do not share in that opinion. *Truth*, for example, believes it quite conceivable that a Channel tunnel might bring conscription to England, kill the blue water school and lead to the abandonment of naval defence. The *Globe* thinks it cannot be too strongly insisted that as a nation we have nothing to gain by the tunnel, absolutely nothing, and that by it we risk everything. Another journal urges that the plain fact has to be faced that our fleet cannot protect us against raids. "As things are, the mischief that might be done by these raids might be exceedingly grave; with a tunnel to be seized it might be irretrievable." A commercial paper urges that it is not a question of military risk but of commerce. Would, it asks, "a tunnel justify the demands of that test? The invasion bogey need not be raised; it may be safely ignored. Our system of warfare will be revolutionised in the laboratory before another half-century." Commercial opinion seems all in favour of the tunnel, so we are surprised to find a Sheffield journal, whose contributors probably never even saw the sea, writing: "Once the tunnel is completed and is in working order, we cease to be an island. With the tunnel in existence, if a raiding force landed near Dover it could, with almost absolute certainty, gain possession of the Dover end of the tunnel before it could be dealt with, and once the Dover end of the tunnel was in an enemy's hands, our sea power would avail us nothing." It is not to be assumed too confidentially, observes the *Times*, that the *Entente* would be strengthened by the tunnel. Many difficult questions, fiscal and commercial, would be raised; many trade rivalries would assume a form more rather than less acute than at present. The tunnel would have to be under international management, and in proportion to its value and success the commercial weight at the other end would overbalance ours. It might convert this country commercially into a Continental annexe." It also might not. But the *Pall Mall Gazette* thinks that at a time when we have just completely altered the strategical disposition of our fleet to meet the changed conditions created by the rise of the naval power of Germany, it may well seem inconceivable that any sane Englishman should deliberately seek to add another chance of national disaster to those already existing. It refuses to believe that Heaven seeks to destroy England by making Englishmen mad. But as we showed yesterday the new disposition of our fleet is condemnable, if only because of recent experiences in Jamaica where the United States fleet was in supreme command, until the Colonial Government rudely bade it begone.

While we do not wish to treat the alarm of military men and the journals of the interior lightly, we turn with pleasure to the observations which Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, late Inspector-General of the Auxiliary Forces, has addressed to the *Tribune*. That distinguished officer points out with accuracy that in the case of nearly every great advance in the progress of science and especially in that of locomotion it has been received and greeted with croakings and forebodings of evil, mostly on the part of those who bear in mind that twenty-four years ago, the same scheme was abandoned in consequence of panic and terror of invasion by the French, which arose in the War Office in 1882, though in December 1881, the greatest British soldier of that day declared that a hundred men could defend the exit of the tunnel against a hundred thousand who attempted to force it. General Turner adds: "The same authority might just as well have said against half a million; in fact, the more soldiers a confiding foe were insane enough to commit to the tunnel the greater would be the advantage to those who had the task of barring its egress, either on the French or English side, for assuredly none of the bold invaders who ventured beyond the point at which the mechanical arrangements for supplying light and air were controlled from their own side would survive, and the tunnel would become a vast and ghastly charnel-house." Then, again, citizens of cool judgment are reminded that if the pessimists had been allowed to have their way, the Suez Canal would not now exist. Lord Palmerston and others regarded it as a distinct danger to our Indian possessions. It is indeed hard to believe that nervousness and vain fears will be allowed to obstruct and defeat this great scheme, or "the pale cast of thought" be permitted to destroy an "enterprise of great pith and moment" such as that of the creation of the Channel Tunnel We are inclined to trust to the engineer rather than to the soldier for the defence of a tunnel if ever one be constructed. Most of the critics do not seem to have seen, and understood, if they have seen, the latest plans. They appear to believe that it will run from the depths of the sea and emerge high and dry in Dover. The French themselves have shown us how to safeguard the entrance. They propose to build their portion of the work so that before reaching the tunnel the line would make a curve by means of an open viaduct crossing the sands and open at all times to the fire of British warships stationed miles out at sea. The shore structure demolished, the tunnel would be unapproachable and useless to an enemy. Our own end could be similarly safeguarded if the engineer's art has not fallen lamentably low, though it has been urged that at a moment's notice the tunnel could be closed with a portcullis and filled with irrespirable gases. Indeed, it would be no great matter to flood it—a man of war's diver could do that, in fact destroy the whole fabric, with a charge of dynamite. The existing garrison would suffice to defend it, and the sub-marine mining detachment which defends the harbour works at Dover might very well be also entrusted with the defence of the tunnel. We do not think a hostile France would ever run the risk of sending her troops by tunnel even if the two countries did not agree that in the event of war it should not be resorted to for military purposes, in any contingency.

THE AMIR AND THE PARSIS. We are glad to see the Amir's coming visit to our City is causing a good deal of enthusiasm amongst the people of Bombay. The Municipal Corporation has resolved to give an address of welcome to him and this is what should be. The address will be thoroughly representative of the various castes and creeds among the citizens of the second city in the Empire. It would be very inconvenient, to say the least, if the various communities were to present each its separate address, even if they were allowed to do so by the authorities. But there seems to exist a desire on the part of a section of the Parsis to welcome the Amir separately with a special address of their own and for this purpose they have moved the recently started Zoroastrian Association to help them to do it. The Parsis seem to have no special reason to address the Amir separately, and Sir Jamsetji Jijibhai and others were not at first in favour of giving such an address. The proposal was shelved by the Managing Committee of the Association when brought before it a fortnight ago, the remarks which Sir Jamsetji wrote against it carrying great weight. Meanwhile one or two individuals got up an agitation in its favour, and for that purpose discovered a truly recondite reason why the Parsis should present a special address to the Amir. They said that in prehistoric times the Parsis had much more to do with Afghanistan than with Persia, which is generally considered by themselves as their original home. The thing would sound paradoxical even if it were a fact, which it is not. We cannot be certain about anything relating to prehistoric times; but these persons are ecoksure that Afghanistan was the home of Parsis long, long years ago. In prehistoric times, that is the times before the Achæminians when history in Persia really commences,—history of which we have any record, written or sculptured, so far as scholars can be sure, Bactria was the earliest kingdom whence these legendary kings spread their dominion into Media and Persia. Kaiomarz, a sort of Parsi Adam, and Jamshid, their earliest and almost mythical kings, are said by great authorities like Malcolm to have ruled in Bactria, and also to have extended their rule into Persia. Jamshid is universally believed to have founded Persepolis in the heart of Persia, called after him the throne of Jamshid. Bactria is a part of Turkestan in Central Asia, and has much more to do with Bokhara and Samarkand than with Afghanistan. A great part of it is now Russian territory. If the Parsis want to honour the present ruler of Bactria they must send an address to the Tsar, and he at present stands in need of what sympathy the Parsis can give him in the midst of his present domestic troubles. Only a small part of Bactria, that around Balkh, belongs to the Amir, and that only since 1850. But even this, situated as it is very close to the Amir's Russian frontier, is very much under Russian influence and will sooner or later be absorbed. The other legendary Parsi land, the home of Zal and Rustom, celebrated in the epic of *Shah Nameh*, is also in Persia, *viz.*, Seistan the modern name of Zabulistan according to Malcolm and other authorities.

Thus it will be seen that it is rather misleading to say that Parsis had more to do with Afghanistan than with Persia, even in legendary times. The Afghans themselves disdain to have anything to do with Parsis, ancient or modern, and are proud to claim descent from the Jews and call themselves children of Israel, Beni-Israel. Sir Henry Yule says they think themselves the descendants of the Patriarch Jacob of whom we read in the Bible. However all this may be, the Parsis should be absolutely united in presenting their address, which we are sorry to say they are not. Most of their papers are against the idea of a separate address to the Amir. In the Association itself there is difference of opinion, and public opinion generally in the Parsi community is not in favour of the idea. If so, those who favour it should quietly drop it. Such things can only be done gracefully by unanimity, and nothing can be gained by forcing the idea on more or less unwilling but silent people. The Shah of Persia has a greater claim on the Parsis, and they should discharge this claim first by sending an address to the new Shah. There seems to be some force in the remarks of a Parsi paper:—"After the unfavourable reception which has been accorded to the proposal with one voice by the Parsi press, we very much doubt if Government will countenance the movement in the face of the unpleasant prospect of its being strongly criticised whilst the Amir is with us."

THE SEASON AT ST. MORITZ. THE sad death of Captain Pennell while tobogganing at St. Moritz calls attention to the great favour into which this form of winter sport has come of late. When, sixteen or seventeen years ago, some few keen skaters undertook the then arduous journey to Daves Platz in order to make certain of ice, they little realised that they were opening out a new country full of possibilities for future generations of sportsmen. Nowadays hundreds of keen athletes wend their way every Christmas time into various places in Switzerland to find in addition to skating many other ice and snow sports, with one common object, to enjoy to the uttermost a most health-giving, strenuous, sociable holiday. Wherever one goes, be it St. Moritz, Davos, Grindelwald, Lenzerheide, or elsewhere, the conditions are much the same—ice, snow, glorious air, extreme cold that does not feel cold, so dry is it, and considerable sun warmth if the weather be anything like propitious. The parent places, if we may so call them—St. Moritz and Davos—naturally have an advantage over the others, owing to their greater age, which leads to more complete organisation; year after year skaters and others have congregated there, and each year has come the demand for larger rinks, for longer—and more dangerous—toboggan runs, and for more complete equipment generally. But, at the same time, as these places expenses have grown correspondingly. Subscriptions have been steadily increased to meet the expenses of yearly improvements, and experts have to pay highly for the perfection they expect to find in all arrangements for their sport. The more modern places are run on cheaper lines: their rinks are not so large, their runs are not so well arranged, but the sport is the same. Let a man go to one of the new places to learn whatever sport he fancies, and then let him move on to one of the parent places to put a polish on his learning, and to become an expert. Although the ice and snow at these winter resorts lasts on into March, the actual winter season at all, with the exception of St Moritz is short—from Christmas week to the end of January. During this time the hotels are crammed, and, apart from the very sociable outdoor life, the evenings are of extreme sociability, dancing three or four nights a week, concerts, theatricals, Bridge always, billiard handicaps, and what not. There is free interchange of hospitality between the different hotels, and there is a good deal of private entertaining besides. After January the social life, indoors at least, droops as the number of visitors decreases, except at St. Moritz, where, it may be said, there are two seasons, the bandy season, corresponding to that of other places, and later the toboggan season, which goes on into the begining of March. Skating, in the beginning the only sport, is now one only of many and, perhaps, not the most popular, for years of hard work are necessary to enable anyone to become first-class at it. Time is so short, and there is so much to do, skate, toboggan, curl, play bandy, ski, that it is hard to devote oneself entirely to one thing especially if that thing seems to be acquired very slowly—and at the other sports a man can gain fair proficiency in a few weeks. St. Moritz has the honour of having founded what is known as the Anglo-Swiss school of skating, an upright, large, smooth style, in which much attention is paid to the carriage of the unemployed foot and of the arms. Of late years the mantle of St. Moritz has fallen on the shoulders of Davos. Grindelwald and St, Moritz probably boast the best ice, but Davos undoubtedly has more good skaters than any other place, and the skating authorities there lay themselves out to uphold worthily the St. Moritz tradition of style, and to encourage and foster the art of combined skating.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD LAMINGTON returned to Bombay yesterday morning from Poona where he had been in connection with the manœuvres.

THE P. and O. Company's s. s. "Oriental," with the outward Mails of the 11th instant, left Aden at 8 p.m. on Sunday and is expected to arrive in Bombay at 9 a.m. on Friday next.

THE Florio and Rubattino Company's s.s. Deo Balduino which left Bombay for Genoa arrived at Aden on the 20th inst.

THE Austrian Lloyd's s.s. Imperator left Trieste for Bombay via Karachi on the morning of the 18th instant and is due here on the 5th February.

WE would again draw attention to the musical treat promised for this evening at M. Premyslav's concert at the Town Hall, although only brief notice has been given, we understand that the booking of seats by Mr. Dove has been entirely satisfactory.

A UNITED States official recently made himself responsible for the statement that quite an impetus had been given to the manufacture of antique rugs in India by the employment of American capital; and that one firm alone controlled ten carpet factories, "one each in Kashmir, Hyderabad and Sikkim, the others being scattered over the country." Mr. C. A. Bell, I.C.S., Officiating Political Officer in Sikkim, states that there are no carpet factories in Sikkim, but the question of introducing the industry in the country is occupying the attention of the Durbar. The Durbar has, for some years, maintained weaving schools at Lachen and Lachung, where tweeds of Harris pattern and blankets have been made on hand looms, but the demand so far for materials of this kind has not been very encouraging. The colours used are indigenous, purely vegetable; and the material is of pure Tibetan wool.

THE *Revue Commerciale du Levant*, a monthly publication issued by the French Chamber of Commerce, contains the following report from Baghdad:—"In consequence of the newly-established steamship line between Hamburg and the Persian Gulf, the business and industrial men of Germany are strenuously endeavouring to introduce their goods into our market. At present the English hold the monopoly of the navigation between Europe and the Persian Gulf, but there is reason to fear that ere long the Germans will be masters of this maritime traffic, which will put them in a position to inundate our region with their products of inferior quality. Already Bussorah and Baghdad are frequently visited by German commercial travellers. In the interest of French commerce, it would seem necessary that this city should be visited by French commercial travellers. They would find outlets here as important as they are fruitful."

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

OUR SERIAL STORY.

THE CROOKED WAY,

BY

WILLIAM LE QUEX,

Author of "Whatsoever a man Soweth," "In White Raiment," "Of Royal Blood," "Whose Findeth a wife," "The Day of Temptation," &c., &c.

CHAPTER VI.—DESCRIBES MISS EDITH CLIFFORD.

Some hours had passed since the events recorded in the last chapter. The great City was waking to its labours, and receiving back from the railways trams, buses and "tubes" the population that deserts it with the waning daylight.

Up Fleet Street, from the Ludgate end, flowed a steady stream of young men and maidens, a great army of clerks and typists, the rank and file of that literary centre, who by ones and twos fell out into the backwaters of the courts, lanes and great blocks of offices in which their work was situated as they passed.

A wonderful throng, the female portion of which has only become a recognised factor of recent years, since acute Yankee brains have furnished the Old Country with their labour-saving inventions.

Again and again the door of Shelley House given up entirely to clerks where wealth was supposed to be gathered in, swung back to admit principals and underlings, and again and again the lift, which more resembled a gigantic birdcage than anything else, flew upward with its human load, intent upon reaching their destination in the quickest time possible and with the least amount of fatigue.

The lift was empty now waiting at the ground floor with its attendant whose arm must have ached with its constant tugging at the starting cord, leaning idly resting against the side of the door. Most of his morning clients had arrived, and while the post was being opened and instructions for the day's work given out in the various offices, he looked forward to an easy time.

But again the outer door swung back, and slow and seemingly uncertain steps sounded along the tiled passage. He turned his head and altered his position, recognising yet another who would require his services.

"Mornin,' miss!" he said as a pretty, fair haired girl with soft blue eyes and very neatly and quietly dressed, almost staggered into the lift and sank down upon the seat.

He was quick to recognise that all was not right with his passenger and his kindley nature prompting him, as they flew upwards, he said:

"Not feeling well miss? Can I get anything for you? It's a hot morning again.

"No thank you, John. It is not. I shall be better when I've sat down a little. There's no one waiting for me?"

"No, miss. And if anyone does come I'll not let them come up if you say the word."

"Oh, don't trouble. I can keep my door shut, but I shall be all right again directly, thank you."

The short rest had already done her good, for on leaving the lift she walked with a firmer step down the narrow passage on the top floor, to where two half-glazed doors, side by side, bore the inscription:—

MISS EDITH CLIFFORD,
Typist and Shorthand Writer.

Taking a key from her pocket, she opened the first of these.

The room within was like hundreds of rooms in the recently re-built offices in the neighbourhood: small, with plaster walls and new minute grates, low cupboards on either side the fireplace, electric swinging lamps, and a telephone hanging against the wall. The floor was bare save for a hearthrug and a strip of carpet under the table of the typewriter standing in the middle of the room. A table in a corner crowded with MSS. and finished sheets, a small iron safe, and one or two chairs completed the furnishing; while the broad window sills were loaded with heaps of papers and advertisements.

It could hardly have been called a tidy room, but it gave the idea of a place where a good deal of work was got through. The second room was almost a replica of the first, with the exception of there being no telephone on the wall, no safe, and the heaps of papers being rather more tidily stowed away.

And what of the occupier? Though it is hardly fair to attempt to paint her portrait in her then shaken condition yet there could be no doubt about her being, as has already been said, a remarkably pretty girl, her fair sunshiny hair falling in wavy masses over her white forehead, adding a softness to her small piquant features. As she sat there her summer-blue eyes were half-veiled by the lids, heavily fringed with long curling lashes, and her cheeks had lost most of their usual healthy colour, while on her face rested an expression which told of racking anxiety and suspense within.

From her hand which hung almost lifelessly over the arm of the chair, had fallen a copy of that morning's paper, and on her other side her gloves were lying unnoticed on the floor.

For some minutes she sat thus, dead to the world around her, and then with a deep-drawn sigh she struggled to her feet and helped herself to a glass of water from the filter standing on the top of one of the cupboards. The cool draught seemed to give her new life, for without removing hat or jacket she gathered up the few letters lying on the floor where they had fallen through the slit in the door, and commenced to open them and examine their contents.

She had not been thus long engaged when suddenly breaking down she let her head fall upon her arm resting on the table, and burst into a fit of sobbing.

So violent was her emotion that she did not notice a quick footfall advancing along the passage until the door, which she had neglected to fasten, was opened, and a curious figure entered.

Robert Mackinlay, or as he was known to his friends Bob Mac—or even more frequently Bob alone—was one of those enigmas who are occasionally to be found in London, and who while appearing to be nonentities as far as business is concerned, are always busy, and always have a certain amount of money in their pockets.

As to the case in point, Robert Mackinlay was known to have a set of chambers in Staples Inn, and to have occupied them for a longer period than any of his acquaintances could vouch for, but none of them, save Roy Royston, had ever seen the inside of them, and he but rarely. What he did for a living none could say; he spoke vaguely of many matters, but never uttered a syllable to which the inquisitive could absolutely pin their faith.

He was frequently to be seen in the City in the neighbourhood of The House, and equally often up and down Fleet Street. First nights found him arrayed in a suit of broad-cloth that had seen better days, an occupant of the stalls, but if he was "doing the piece" he kept it to himself. Lords', the Oval, the towing-path, Epsom, Ascot, Sandown, Kempton, Hurst Park, Gatwick, Sandown, Lingfield, Epsom, Ascot, Goodwood

THE KINGSTON DISASTER.

EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION.

Alleged Insult to America.

PEREMPTORY LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR.

DEATH ROLL UNDER-ESTIMATED.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, JANUARY 20.

The United States fleet is leaving Kingston owing to a peremptory letter from the Governor requesting it to withdraw on the ground that he is fully able to attend to all the needs of the population. He is only willing to permit a party of unarmed Americans to land and protect the American Consulate. The American Admiral declares that the immediate departure of the vessels is the only course consistent with the dignity of the United States.

Latest accounts from Kingston show that the death-roll has been under-estimated. In addition to seven hundred bodies that have been buried, over a thousand unidentified dead are still awaiting burial; while the number of injured is estimated at three thousand, of which a thousand cases are serious. Every account adds fresh horrors to the scenes following the disaster. Lord Elgin, in a letter to the Lord Mayor, urges all feeling kinship in the Empire to support the Jamaica Fund.

FURTHER DETAILS.

Unfortunate Expression of Opinion.

LONDON, JANUARY 21.

A Reuter, message from Kingston, dated January 19th, says that it appears that the American blue-jackets were landed, patrolled the streets, and assisted in clearing away the debris and in attending to the wounded in spite of Sir A. Swettenham's intimation that they were not required. On the evening of the same day, the American Commander Admiral Davis, wrote detailing the work done by the blue jackets. It included assistance in the recovery of some stolen jewellery, and from this Admiral Davis judged that the police surveillance was inadequate. He proposed, therefore, to again land parties of bluejackets next day, unless Sir A. Swettenham expressly intimated that he did not desire it, thinking it possible that they would be of great assistance to private individuals without interfering with the authorities. The Admiral added that he should give similar directions to the squadron doctors to do their utmost to assist. The only object of the Squadron's visit was to render such assistance as they could. He trusted that Sir A. Swettenham would approve these actions which were dictated by common humanity. He mentioned that he had six men guarding the Consulate.

Sir A. Swettenham replied thanking the Admiral and expressing hearty appreciation of his kind assistance and generous offers. He had no objection to a detachment guarding the Consulate provided it was armed only with clubs, but he felt it his duty to ask Admiral Davis to re-embark the working parties. He found the latter helping a private individual to clear a store and had no doubt that all owners would be glad of similar naval help to save them expense, "but" said the Governor, "this is no longer a question of humanity." He was glad of the delivery of the jewellery but believed the police surveillance to be adequate. The fact that the residence of a New York millionnaire was pillaged in the summer during the owner's absence would not, wrote Sir A. Swettenham, have justified a British Admiral in landing a party to assist the New York police.

Admiral Davis made a farewell call on the Governor in the morning and notified him that the squadron was leaving. He added that in view of Sir A. Swettenham's attitude and of his not desiring American aid, he had countermanded a shipload of beef which the American Government was sending.

It is reported that Admiral Davis waited a quarter of an hour and was just leaving when Sir A. Swettenham appeared.

The Squadron sailed in the afternoon.

LONDON, JANUARY 21.

A telegram from Washington states that Acting Secretary Bacon has declared that Admiral Davis had not sailed and that he had not been slighted by any trouble at Kingston. This was followed by the publication of a detailed despatch from Admiral Davis dated the 18th instant paying a high tribute to Sir A. Swettenham and intimating the impending withdrawal of the penitentiary guard owing to Sir A Swettenham's assurances that he was able to control the situation. Admiral Davis however considered it his duty to remain in view of the confusing situation.

Acting Secretary Bacon's emphatic denial has suspended public opinion for the moment, but it is believed that it is based on antecedent information because there are numerous outside corroborations of the Swettenham-Davis controversy. The incident is generally deeply deplored.

LONDON, JANUARY 21.

The "Prinz Joachim" and "Alleghany" have already left New York for Jamaica, with supplies but the collection of supplies is now suspended.

Admiral Davis telegraphed to Washington on 18th January that the Jamaican authorities had declined his offer to land working parties, but that he landed bluejackets later, by request, in order to prevent a mutiny at the penitentiary.

The *Daily Mail's* Kingston correspondent states that this later request was made by Sir A. Swettenham's subordinate and was repudiated by the Governor himself.

["EMPIRE" SPECIAL.]

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

Intense indignation prevails in Kingston over the Governor's action in declining assistance.

Thousands are still sleeping out and tents and food are badly needed.

The Americans established field hospitals and hundreds were relieved. Admiral Davis steamed away yesterday taking the hospitals and countermanding the American relief supplied, declaring that it was the only dignified course after Sir Alexander Swettenham's peremptory letter requiring the withdrawal of the working parties.

A former resident of Kingston, Jamaica, contributes the following interesting account of the town to the *Empire*:—

Kingston owed its existence to an earthquake, having been founded between 1693-1703 on the destruction of the neighbouring town of Port Royal—vivid descriptions of the latter catastrophe by eye-witnesses speak of the town sliding suddenly into the sea with its buildings and inhabitants; and in the waters at the extreme edge of the narrow strip of land that forms a natural breakwater to Kingston harbour, it is said glimpse of the ruined city may even yet be seen.

Kingston itself has suffered much from hurricanes, earthquakes and fire. Practically the whole of the city was burnt down in 1880. The residents enjoy little sense of security. The more serious seismic disturbances on neighbouring islands keep the population in a constant state of tension, and on the occasion of minor shocks, which frequently occur, the negro population in particular rush shrieking from their houses and the panic is only allayed by the cessation of the quakes.

The city had a population of about 48,000 and it lies on a sloping piece of land above which tower the Blue Mountains, so-called because of the bluish haze with which they are covered. It had a very mixed population, the white residents being outnumbered by the negroes and their descendants. The harbour is a very beautiful one and the city itself as seen from the incoming steamer with the red tiled houses peeping from among the palms and tropical vegetation, and the magnificent mountainous background, has often formed the subject of the descriptive writer. There are not many public buildings of any particular importance from an architectural point of view, but among those which might be enumerated were the Parish Church and the Theatre Royal. The ordinary buildings are flimsily constructed and for the most part follow the American bungalow style, that is to say there is a brick-work foundation running up a few feet and the superstructure is of wood with a shingle roof. It can easily be understood, therefore, in the case of an earthquake bringing down the structures and a fire starting, the whole place would soon become one vast conflagration. Jamaica within recent years has been greatly boomed as a health resort to which visitors from England and America fly to escape the vigours of a northern winter. At this season of the year therefore Kingston would be full of visitors. The hotels of which there were several, were been worked in conjunction with the various steamship companies and were thoroughly up-to-date in appointments and management.

The island has passed through many vicissitudes financial and otherwise. Its principal product, sugar, had been more or less an unremunerative crop for some years, but chiefly through American enterprise, fruit cultivation had once again brought prosperity to the colony. Kingston was one of the ports of call for the American fruit boats and an impetus to the trade, from a British point of view, had also been given by the establishment of a regular line of steamers running between Kingston and Bristol. In this venture Sir Alfred Jones, the well-known Liverpool shipowner, was largely interested. The last returns published showed that the colonies' finances were in a flourishing condition, but the present catastrophe must spell ruin to the island, at any rate for some time to come.

CORONATION OF THE SHAH.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, JANUARY 20.

Teheran was illuminated yesterday evening, and there were general public rejoicings. A Durbar was held this morning in the first great Palace Court. The Shah sat on a marble throne. The Persian heir Sultan Ahmed Mirza, the second son of the present Shah, stood in front.

NEW PERSIAN PAPER.

A Parliamentary Organ.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 21.

Certain members of the Persian Parliament have started a daily paper in Teheran called *Majilis*, in support of the views of Government.

ACCIDENT AT ST. MORITZ.

Tirah Hero Killed.

LONDON, JANUARY 20.

Captain H. S. Pennell, V. C., of the Derbyshire Regiment, has been killed while tobogganning at St. Moritz.

[Captain Pennel of the Notts and Derbyshire Regiment was born in 1874 and joined the Sherwood Foresters in 1893. In 1896 he was promoted Lieutenant and in the following year was with the 2nd Batallion Derbyshire Regiment in the Tirah campaign where, at the storming of Dargai, he won mention in despatches and the V. C. Captain Smith whom he tried to save was a brother officer in the Derbyshire Regiment and was shot down in the great final rush. The official mention reads:—

"The General Officer Commanding the 2nd Division has also brought to notice the services of the following:—..... Lieutenant H. S. Pennell, 2nd Battalion Derbyshire Regiment, who endeavoured to bring in Captain Smith's body and only desisted on finding that Captain Smith was dead."

Captain Pennell served in the South African War, being wounded at the relief of Ladysmith and being twice mentioned in Despatches. He was at the Staff College from 1902 to 1903 and was appointed Staff Captain on the administration Staff, Southern Command in 1905. Captain Pennell was a very keen follower of hounds.]

TURKISH AFFAIRS.

LONDON, JANUARY 21.

A telegram from Constantinople states that the Ex-Vizier Kiamli has arrived there and proceeded direct to Yildz Kiosk.

THE CONNAUGHT'S TOUR.

Arrival at Aden.

LONDON, JANUARY 20.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught have arrived at Aden.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, JANUARY 20.

The death announced of Signor Saracco, the former Prime Minister of Italy.

[The late Signor Saracco was a great patriot, who began his political career with Depretis. He was Minister with Crispi and Zanardelli, and twice Prime Minister in critical moments. For many years he has been President of the Senate, but retired a few years ago. Saracco was about 80 years of age. King Humbert, and also the present King, had much confidence in him and he had the highest Italian Decoration: The *Collare dell' Annunziata*, which is reserved to the King, to the members of the Royal House, and the best friends of His Majesty.]

THE IN-COMING MAIL

ADEN, JANUARY 20.

The P. and O. Company's s.s. "Oriental" with the English Mails of the 11th inst left here for Bombay at 8 p.m. to-day. The same Company's s.s. "Marmora," left for Colombo and Australia at 7 p.m. this evening.

THE statement of traffic of the Tapti-Valley Railway for the week ending 1st December 1906, amounted to Rs. 25,629, being a decrease on the corresponding week of last year of Rs. 94. The total earnings from 1st July to 1st December were Rs. 3,10 424, being an increase on the corresponding period of last year of Rs. 10,249.

THE statement of traffic on the Ahmedabad-Dholka Railway for the week ending 1st December 1906 amounted to Rs. 2,137, being an increase on the corresponding week of last year of Rs. 640. The total earnings from 1st July to 1st December were Rs. 40,759, being an increase on the corresponding period of last year of Rs. 7,466.

The statement of the Ahmedabad-Prantej Railway for the week endiing 1st Davember 1906, amounted to Rs. 3,828, being a decrease on the corresponding week of last year of Rs. 125. The total earnings from 1st July to 1st December were Rs. 73,548, being an increase on the coresponding period of last year of Rs. 7,344.

THE AMIR'S VISIT.

BACK AGAIN IN DELHI.

Visit to Historic Sites.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, JANUARY 21.

The Amir's Special arrived here about 8-15 this morning but his Highness did not detrain until past nine.

Mr. Mark, Commissioner, Mr. Humphreys, Deputy Commissioner, and various other gentlemen who were present and a Guard of Honour and escort from the 18th Tiwana Lancers and the 35th Sikhs and a band who at the Royal Salute played the Afghan National Anthem, the Amir proceeding to Circuit House after the inspection of the Guard. His Highness was due to drive through parts of the city, but altered his programme at the eleventh hour driving by motor to the Fort inspecting the archaeological restorations and thence to Kutab Minar visiting Humayun's, Nizamuddins' and Saftarjung's tombs en route.

The Amir soundly rated his entourage this morning for the apparent neglect of his comfort, leaving Circuit House at ten instead of twelve and seems to have practically fasted all day.

The Amir proceeded for duck shooting to Karnal this evening and thence entrains by a Special in the morning to Panipat to visit certain historical monuments.

On returning to Delhi from Ajmere on 24th instant the Amir visits in the forenoon the Ganesh Flour Mills in Subzi Mundi. The Amir wearing mufti has now taken to motor goggles and mask which rather disconcerts the sightseers.

The Amir's handsome little pages or cupbearers from Bokhara rather attract notice. The close surveillance exercised over the Amir by the Politicals and their attitude towards press correspondents not representing Government organsleads to the reflexion how far the Amir's independence recognized by the King, Emperor, is a reality.

SELECTION OF CAMP SIDE AT LAHORE.

Arrival of the Treasurer.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 21.

The Punjab Light Horse parade ground close to Aitchison's Chiefs' College has been selected as the side for the Amir's Camp in Lahore.

Qamruddin Khan, the Amir's Treasurer, has arrived in Lahore from Agra with His Highness treasure which consists of one lakh Indian and one Kabuli coins lakh and a box of jewels. He is expected to stay here until the Amir's arrival.

RIOTOUS ASSAULT ON EUROPEANS.

Six Arrests Made.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, JANUARY 21.

A rioteus assault on two Europeans occurred on the 17th instant in Sudder bazar. The gentlemen concerned, Messrs Edmunds and Piper, being badly injured by missiles and lathis. They were engaged in surveying the route for the electric tramway line. Their injuries were attended to at the hospital. Six arrests have been made by the police.

MUTINY COMMEMORATION.

Some Suggestions.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 21.

A Correspondent writes to the *Civil and Military Gazette* asking what is going to be done this year to commemorate the events of 1857 and results of those events. A few suggestions are:—

(1) A monument of some kind to commemorate the fact that for the last fifty years there has been no war within the borders of the Punjab, "and probably in all its previous history no period of fifty years peace can be shown.

(1) A Dinner or some entertainment to all survivors of those who fought, whether Europeans or Punjabis, in the great fight, and a memento medal to each.

(2) The *C. and M. Gazette* some years ago suggested that there should be some kind of memorial at Mian Mir to commemorate the celebrated Ball. Great interest has always been taken in the Ball at Brussels, on the night before Quatre Bras, but the Mian Mir Ball on the night after bad news came from Delhi was a more remarkable affair, for the dancers knew that they were dancing over a volcano ready to burst out. It took place in what was then the Artillery Mess, and there is now living in Lahore one who had recently come out to the Battery and who vividly describes how he and other men were sitting outside their barrack listening to the dance music, when an Officer strolled across from the Ball Room and ordered them to take charge of the guns and arrest the native guard and load guns. This man was afterwards in Nicholson's flying column and in the fierce fighting in the streets of Delhi.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY, 21.

An Association for the advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education among Indians, which has already sent two batches of about sixty Indian youths to foreign countries, will shortly send another batch of forty.

FACTORY ADMINISTRATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—It is well known that the Government of India have recently appointed a committee to investigate the conditions of labour in Indian factories and have referred certain specific points for their consideration and report. To any one actually acquainted with the prevailing conditions in our factories and having an unbiased mind, the list seems to be wanting in two very material points. These are, the hours of employment of women and the constitution of proper factory inspecting staff, irrespective of the Medical.

With regard to the first point it may be stated that the overtime employment of women in reeling departments in mills contrary to law is becoming so general day by day that very flagrant breaches of the Factory Act can be detected of a midnight if they are approached with great care and caution by Inspectors. The reason for taking precautions is that the tutored gatekeepers, in order to give time and warning, will often pass away five or ten minutes on the pretext of finding out the key which is always with them or in pretending to be asleep till the lights are put out in the working department and the inmates have made themselves away by some badge way or other gate or have concealed themselves under cover of darkness from the Inspector's view only to commence work again when he has left the premises.

The second question of very great importance is the reorganisation of the existing Factory Inspector's staff on lines similar to those of the Police, Abkari and Opium departments. In each industrial centre there should be appointed one Technical Inspector and under him as many ordinary Subordinate Inspectors as the work may demand. The Technical Inspector is necessary only because under the Factories Act mill machinery is required to be supervised and ordinary Subordinate Inspectors are of great assistance to him to detect offences and thoroughly cope with the other branches of the work which it is believed the Inspectors are not able to do at present. The pay of the present staff of Factory Inspectors, it will be recognised, is much more compared to that of the Inspectors of Police Abkari, and Opium whose duties are always so risky, onerous and exacting. However, as is the case in the above departments provision should also be made in this for grant of rewards in successful prosecutions for encouragement. The pay of the subordinate Inspectors should be moderate, say rupees one hundred and fifty or a little above that with allowances, and ought to be regulated by progressive salaries. The increase of Technical Inspectors at a place which already has one will be a great burden on the State treasury and will not fulfil the object in view. Informants may also be engaged as is other departments and recompansed in like manner.

A. K. D.

THE POONA MANŒUVRES.

The Attack on the Bluff

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAMP, BHARA, JANUARY 19.

I closed my latest contribution to your columns with the position our troops had secured for themselves by brilliant night-work on the night of the 17th and 18th.

As the sun rose above the hills, a roar of musketry intermingled with the heavy boom of cannon rent the air. On our left we could see—to be more accurate I should say we could hear, so excellently were the troops concealed—the Cavalry Brigade hotly engaging the enemy's right on Sus Hill, and to our front the Infantry Brigades were pouring forth a deadly fusillade. The Howitzer Battery pushed forward overnight, was burying shot after shot in the immediate proximity of the wire entanglements completely enveloping the western side of the Bluff, whilst the Field Batteries busied themselves in sweeping the ridges of the Bluff with accurately bursting shrapnel.

I have not referred before to the admirable system of inter-communication which binds all units together and to their commanders. The telephone, the telegraph, the flag, the helio vie with each other in assisting to complete the perfect understandihg between all units, so necessary in the widely extended attacks of to-day. The value and excellence of our communications was demonstrated this morning, perhaps more clearly than it had been before; a hot, sudden and devastating machine-gun fire develops from a redoubt on the east of the enemy's position. The General seizes the nearest message book, "All guns direct their fire on the redoubt" he writes, and within four minutes the shrapnel have ceased to burst over the Bluff, to reopen with deadly effect upon the fortification, which has invited its own destruction.

During the whole day we have maintained a heavy fire upon the enemy's position, and there can be but little doubt that his defence has been considerably weakened and the advance to the assault of the Bluff must shortly be undertaken. It is worthy of description this attack and assault on a defined position; it is but one phase of battle. Superiority of fire has been attained; the combined efforts of Infantry and field batteries have beaten down the enemy's musketry. The men no longer aim. His Artillery is silent. His force is commencing retreat. A determined rush, and the position is ours, we cross the trenches, the enemy gives way. But he abandons not all hope. We have forced the defenders from their first chosen position, but there is a stronger one behind. There is ridge after ridge still to be stormed before we achieve the great end of battle, not the exhaustion but the annihilation of the hostile force. The capture of these successive positions is no easy task, counter-attack after counter-attack has to be beaten back, our assaults have to be repeated and repeated. This give and take of heavy blows throws a great weight of responsibility on the leaders of the firing line. On them depends the making good of captured positions, and the defeat of the counter-attacks, or if it has been successful, the quick return to the attack. The officer is called upon to watch the enemy as the swordsmen watches the eye of his opponent, and yet take note of the ground over which he passes, its obstacles, the rallying points it offers. The soldier must himself be able to maintain direction, to utilise cover, and act on his own iniative. On open ground the enemy's fire is so severe that the subordinate leaders must act on their own resources, superior direction becomes impossible, on the intelligence skill and readiness of the skirmisher everything depends. The attack over such ground has long ceased to be a trim and orderly advance; it is the highest test of endurance and capacity of each individual soldier. I have drawn no fanciful picture, as this attack upon the Bluff which I am about to describe, and the main position beyond should prove.

To make assurance doubly sure, the General has decided to call surprise into play. Manœuvring, the "antidote to entrenchments," was not to be neglected. At dusk a feint is made across the right of the enemy's position and amplified by means of a decoy bridge thrown across the river south of Man. As twilight turned to night, the bridge for the main attack was rapidly constructed across the river north of Laula, covered by two companies swiftly and silently rafted across.

The crossing of the Second Brigade began at 9 p. m., just as the moon was waning. This brigade passed round from their trenches on the left in rear of the trenches of the first brigade. The crossing was effected in under a quarter of an hour, and in the strictest silence the march to the Bluff took place. Not a sound was to be heard except the occasional rattle of the telephone-wire being paid out as the column advanced. Six hundred yards from the Bluff the position of deployment was reached. Just as deployment was completed fire was opened by the defenders, and flare-lights ignited by electricity showed up in a lurid light the grim face of the Bluff surrounded by a network of wire entanglements.

As the flare lights lit up the ground, so the attacking lines laid down. As they became extinguished, so they advanced at the double parties in front with wire cutters being busy at work on the entanglements. At length on a given signal, the whole line charged with ringing cheers, through the entanglements, which were indeed a veritable network, on and on until the trenches were reached, and by 10-30 p. m. the Bluff was captured, a signal rocket being fired to announce the fact to the G. O. C. at his headquarters on Tiger's Kloof.

I have already described to you in detail the defences of the Bluff, the place was a network of trenches, flare lights, trip wires, &c., and the attack, whilst crossing them came under a murderous fire at close range.

Immediately after the capture of the Bluff, the remainder of the attacking force crossed over Laula Bridge, and another bridge of Berthon boats was thrown over the Mula just under the Bluff by means of which the baggage of the 2nd, Brigade was pushed across. The troops immediately made good their ground and secured themselves against counter-attack, before proceding to a further advance.

The casualty list was very heavy including Colonel Murray, Commanding the 1st Brigade, and Colonel Read C. B., Commanding the 2nd Brigade; Colonel Sitwell D. S. O., East Lancashire Regiment was appointed to the 1st Brigade, and Colonel Swann C. B, to the 2nd.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and His Excellency Lord Lamington in company with Sir Archibald Hunter and Staff witnessed the attack from the Bluff.

During these operations the Cavalry Brigade had not been idle, but during the night entrenched themselves in positions on the left bank of the Mula river, North of Sus Hill, and were ready to open fire at dawn against the enemy immediately facing them. The Mounted Infantry, after passing over Laula Bridge had occupied Laula Hill with the object of threatening the left flank of the position. One brigade, of artillery occupied positions on the right bank of the stream, the remaining brigade and the howitzer battery entrenched themselves on the left bank.

During the night the enemy made two desperate counter attacks on the Bluff, but both were repulsed. The enemy recognized evidently how seriously their position was endangered, once the Bluff, was in our hands. At dawn on the 19th fire was opened from the newly excavated trenches and there was a continuous stream of shrapnel, rifle and machine gun fire poured upon the enemy's main position. The 13th Brigade R. F. A. were compelled to advance under fire, owing to being masked by the trenches of the 1st Brigade. It is almost unnecessary to state that this movement would not have taken place on actual service, as the guns could have fired over the heads of the infantry, but under the existing rules for manœuvres, there was no alternative but to move the batteries unless they were to remain inactive during the whole morning.

This fire is still continuing as this report is despatched.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS IN HONOR OF THE GUESTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, JANUARY 21.

The Poona Manœuvres concluded last evening without a single disturbing element of any kind, beyond the unfortunate accidents to Lord Kitchener and General Richardson. Lord Kitchener was again out in Camp yesterday morning but returned in the afternoon and left by Special Train for Calcutta the same evening.

General Smith-Dorrien, Sir James Willcocks and other five Generals who were in Camp are at present the guests of Sir Archibald Hunter.

SIR ARCHIBALD'S DINNER PARTY.

Sir Archibald entertains a large number of distinguished Officers and as many ladies who have come from different parts of India at a dinner to-night, and after dinner to a ball at the Gymkhana Club which has been very charmingly decorated for the occasion by a bevy of ladies headed by Mrs. Bell, the wife of Colonel Bell.

DANCE AT MAGDALA HOUSE.

The Lieutenant General gives another dance at Magdala House to-morrow night. Poona is a blaze with Military Officers from all parts of India and these social functions are in their honour.

General Richardson is able to move about with his arm in a sling. He with Colonel Fitzgerald, A. A. G., return to Poona to-day.

SUIT FOR JUDICIAL SEPARATION.

After Three Days' Married Life.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

LUCKNOW, JANUARY 21.

An interesting matrimonial case was commenced on Saturday before the Allahabad High Court before Mr. Justice Richards. The petitioner is Mrs. Maud Gertrude Nickels who sues her husband Christopher Nickels of Allahabad for judicial separation on the ground of adultery with Miss O'Connell of Allahabad. The petitioner states the parties were married at Lanouli, Bombay presidency, on 16th August 1906, and after a very brief married life of three days, the respondent left petitioner and returned to Allahabad where he represented he had business. The respondent also promised to sent for petitioner within two months as soon as he had arranged house for her. When leaving Lanouli, the respondent took Rs. 5,000 from his wife which sum, she said, he would invest in business and a further sum of Rs. 500 to purchase a conveyance. The petitioner further alleges that finding she was not sent for as promised she came to Allahabad on December, 5th and then the respondent told her he had misconducted himself with a girl named O'Connell but had not married her and was not living with her. On the respondent assuring petitioner he would try and reform and come back to her on his entreating her not to blast his prospects in Allahabad petitioner agreed to go and live in Jubulpur. While there the petitioner learnt that the respondent was actually living with Miss O'Connell and instituted the present proceedings.

The respondent in a written statement admitted misconduct, but submitted that the Court had no jurisdiction to try the suit as the parties had never resided together within the jurisdiction of the Court.

The petitioner's evidence bore out the allegations contained in the petition. She further stated that in Bombay she heard that her husband eloped with a girl to Calcutta and after marrying her returned to Allahabad. Her husband had robbed her of her money and she was told was still living with O'Connell. Perks, a witness, deposed being introduced by Nickels about a month ago to Miss O'Connell as his wife and that they lived together as a married couple.

Respondent did not addues evidence.

The question alimony then was brought up when Mr. Justice Richards at the conclusion of the case characterized the conduct of the respondent, in deserting his wife after three days' marriage and carrying away Rs. 5,000 as that of a scoundrel.

His Lordship said that although no criminal law could touch the respondent, morally his conduct was no better than that of a criminal as he had practically robbed his wife of her money and it looked as if he had married her only to rob her.

His Lordship was prepared to grant a decree for judicial separation but suggested the parties should come to some understanding as regards a settlement for petitioner's future provision, and reserved judgment accordingly.

HIMALAYAN EXPLORATION.

Proposed Ascent of the Kabree Peak.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

The Norwegian Explorers, Messrs. Rubensen and Aas are making preliminary excursions to Kabree Peak, next to Kinchinjunga on the west with a view to ascent, in the hot weather.

LAHORE SPRING RACES POSTPONED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 21.

The dates of the Lahore Spring Race Metinge was originally March 20th and March 22nd, but these have been changed to March 28th and 30th

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR GOES INTO CAMP.

LAHORE, JANUARY 21.

The Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab is to be in Camp from to-day till the 25th instant, and will return to Lahore on the evening of the 26th.

CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

Abolition of the Plague Department.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

At a meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on Wednesday, it will be proposed that the Plague Department of the Corporation be abolished, and the Health Department strengthened if necessary.

SMALL-POX IN DARJEELING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

It is reported that small-pox is very prevalent at Darjeeling, and that the hospital arrangements are very indifferent.

SERIOUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Derailment of the Workmen's Train.

THREE KILLED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

There was a serious railway accident at Lilloah, East Bengal State Railway, on Friday last, when the workmen's train derailed. A panic followed and the workmen jumped out when run into a passing train. Three were killed.

VICEROY'S GUESTS AT CALCUTTA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 21.

The Hon. Mrs. and Miss Dundas arrived in Calcutta this morning and are staying at Government House as his Excellency's guests,

THE hired transport "Assaye" is due to arrive at Bombay from Southampton on 31st January bringing out officers for various regiments in India.

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

THE SPLIT IN THE IRISH PARTY.

DENUNCIATION OF MR. DILLON AND MR. J. REDMOND.

London, January 5.—Mr. E. Crean, Nationalist member for South-East Cork in the House of Commons, has openly supported Mr. Wm. O'Brien's cause in connection with the trouble that has arisen in the Irish Party and the South East Cork branch of the United Irish League, has resolved to heartily approve of his faithful support of Mr. D. Sheehan, M.P., in the battle which the latter has started against "bossism."

Mr. Crean, in the course of a speech in which he thanked the branch for its approval of his action charged Mr. John Dillon, M.P., with having broken his pledges to his constituents and his party. Mr. Crean also accused Mr. John Redmond, M. P., the leader of the Irish Party, of maladministration of the party's funds.

The Rev. P. O'Donovan declared that the gathering of money in America and Australia through the preaching of Mr. Wm. O'Brien's policy there, while the Irish members at home were denouncing Mr. O'Brien and trying to crush him, was dishonest, and the sooner it was exposed the sooner would the party be rid of the rottenness that had crept in.

FRANCE AND THE VATICAN.

Seizures of Clerical Documents.

London, January 5.—The Vatican authorities state that the French Government intends to publish a portion of the documents seized in the late residence of the Papal Nuncio in Paris and relating to certain personages.

The authorities at the Vatican add that if the persons mentioned in the documents are injured as a result of the publication, they must use whatever means they judge best to protect their rights.

It is stated in clerical circles in Rome that the French Government officials did not make an inventory of the papers seized by them at the nunciature, and that the Vatican may question the authenticity of any documents published.

London, January 6.—The French Bishops have unanimously decided that all contributions from the faithful must be handed to the Bishops who will distribute the funds. The prohibition against parishioners furnishing priests and curates with stipends has caused much irritation.

Laymen, mostly republicans, have in the majority of French parishes made the annual declaration required under the Separation Act. This has placed the clergy in a nasty dilemma. Cardinal Ireland caused a sensation by a sermon in Mennesota, in which he declared that if French Catholics had ranged themselves faithfully on the side of the Republic the present trouble would not have arisen.

TROUBLED RUSSIA.

The Murder of General Von Der Launitz.

London, January 5.—General Von Der Launitz, the Prefect of St. Petersburg, who was assassinated a few days ago, wore a coat of mail, which protected his body. He was shot in the neck and head.

LATE BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

The Funeral.

London, January 6.—The funeral of the late Baroness Burdett-Coutts took place yesterday, and was witnessed by large crowds, who thronged the route from Stratton-street to Westminster Abbey, where the deceased lady was buried. The remains were laid at the foot of Lord Shaftesbury's memorial.

Prince Francis of Teck, the Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Peel, and the Home Secretary (Mr. Herbert Gladstone) were among the pall-bearers.

King Edward, Queen Alexandra, and the Prince and Princess of Wales were represented at the obsequies.

The Agent-General for Victoria (Mr. J. W. Taverner), the Agent-General for South Australia (Mr. J. G. Jenkins), and many political and theatrical leaders were present.

AMERICA AND CUBA.

The Government of the Island.

London, January 5.—Although President Roosevelt and the whole of the United States Administration are opposed to a policy of annexation, they consider that Cuba is unfit for self-government, and that it will be necessary for America to furnish some element of permanent stability in the island.

WARNING TO MARINERS.

Dangerous Search-Light Operations.

London, January 5.—The Admiralty warn mariners to observe great caution in aproaching all naval ports in the Empire when search-light operations are in progress there as obstructions to traffic may exist.

LABOUR TROUBLE IN WALES

Miners Threaten to Strike.

London, January 5.—Owing to the miners in the collieries of North Wales having given notice of their intention to strike, 5,000 additional men have joined the Miners' Federation. Two collieries are still outside the Union.

ZULULAND.

A Rebel Sent to Gaol.

SUSPICION AGAINST DINIZULU.

London, January 5.—A Zulu native has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment for complicity in the recent rebellion.

The evidence in the case tended to implicate Dinizulu, the paramount chief of Zululand. It was stated that a gun which was used in connection with the murder of Mr. Stainbanks, a magistrate, belonged to Dinizulu.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY SUGGESTED.

London, Jan. 6.—Lord Hugh Cecil asserts that many Liberals and Conservatives, who have much in common, will appeal to Lord Rosebery to lead a "central minded party," whose members at present find their views ill-expressed on either side of Parliament.

REPLY TO DE BEER'S.

London Jan. 6—The Treasury authorities state that they are unable to entertain any scheme for providing any fundamental alterations to the Income-tax Law regarding the taxation of Colonial profits.

THE CHURCH AND EDUCATION.

London, January 6.—The Archbishop of Canterbury in his New Year message says: "The Church's claim for elementary Christian teaching in schools is not in the least incompatible with the amplest popular control."

ANTI-SUICIDE BUREAU.

London, January 6.—General Booth has opened an anti-suicide bureau, with officers to give sympathetic advice to despairing persons.

(Continued on page 6.)

UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

A MINISTER OF LABOUR.

Immigrants from England.

GAMBLING ACT IN FORCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

MELBOURNE, JANUARY 7.

As a result of the experience gained during the past few weeks as Chief Secretary and Minister of Labour, Mr. Mackay has arrived at the conclusion that the Department of Labour should not be associated with that of the Chief Secretary. He has prepared the general outline of a scheme for the appointment of a Minister of Labour and the establishment of a Labour Department. This proposal will be submitted to the Cabinet. Mr. Mackay stated yesterday that the great problem was to bring the work and the worker together. There was a proportion of unemployed who were quite willing to work, but who were lacking in initiative, and did not know how to go about getting it. On the other hand, there were employers in country districts who had not the facilities of employers in town of getting in communication with the workers. What has to be done is to bring them together. His idea was to take advantage of the assistance of shire secretaries and police officers. They were constantly in touch with farmers and graziers, and they could be the medium of communication between the Central Labour Department, the farmer and the worker. They might also obtain the assistance of other Government officers in country districts. Past experience had shown that unless they were prepared to pay for this work it would not be done properly, but a large payment was by no means necessary. As long as the officers felt that the work was not being thrust upon them, they would render services of far greater value than the payments made. That was one plan of dealing with the workers in the State. Of course employers would be invited to communicate direct with the department. The Labour Department should take up this work and the work of the Labour Bureau. The Bureau should be reorganised, and there should be a proper classification of the men. Only a Minister of Labour can deal with this question. The Labour Department should not be a mere appendage of the Chief Secretary's or any other department. The main department should be the Labour Department, and it would give a fine opportunity to its Minister, whoever he may be, to make a reputation. The Health Department, or some other, might be tacked on to it, but Labor should be the chief department.

IMMIGRANTS FROM ENGLAND.

The Orient liner "Ormuz," which reached Fremantle on Thursday, brought for this State a batch of 36 immigrants, of whom 15 were nominated, 16 were assisted, and five were full-paying. In connection with the arrival of this party a pleasing report of progress by immigrants who previously came to the State was brought under the notice of the Colonial Secretary (Mr. J. D. Connolly). The Minister was waited upon by seven of the new arrivals, who had been met by Mrs. James Fewson the wife of a settler who came out from England, some months ago. It was a happy party, the reunion having put every member of it in exuberant spirits. Mrs. Fewson told the Colonial Secretary that her husband (Mr. James Fewson) and his brother (Mr. Bruce Fewson) were induced to come to Western Australia by hearing Mr. Scammell lecture in Hull. The two brothers, with their wives, and in the case of James Fewson, one child, reached Fremantle in the R.M.S. "Ortona" on May 10 last year. They selected land 23 miles eastward of Wagin, on which they erected a three-roomed house of iron and wood. They planted 200 fruit trees, comprising apples, peaches, apricots, figs, pears, and oranges, and have already got 200 vines in. They began burning down timber on their selection, and continued until the end of October last, when by law they were compelled to cease such operations. Since then they have been choping down trees, and now have 120 acres ready for burning on March 1. They hope also to clear further land, making a total of 150 acres ready for crop this winter. So satisfied were they with what they had seen here that they sent for other members of the family, who arrived yesterday per the R. M. S. "Ormuz." The new arrivals were Mr. John Fewson and wife (parents of the settlers mentioned) and three daughters, one of whom is Mrs. Hannay, who is accompanied by her husband, also one son and grandchild. The Colonial Secretary stated to a representative of the "West Australian" yesterday that this desirable family will leave Perth to-day by train for Wagin. They have already inquired at the Lands Department with a view to securing a suitable selection in the same locality in which Mr. James Fewson is settled. This land is situated nine miles south of the Wagin-Dumbleyung railway. Mr. Fewson, seen, has three married sons still in Yorkshire, and if the present immigrants approve of the land and conditions of occupation, the sons, with their families will at an early date follow their father to Western Australia.

FIRE ON THE "IRISH MONARCH."

Exciting scenes were witnessed on board the burning steamer "Irish Monarch" in Hobson's Bay on January 1, when efforts were made to extinguish the fire raging in the after-hold. The firemen and stevedores who went down into the burning hatch were not only handicapped by suffocating volumes of smo

change in the habits and thought of the people to carry out in Australia the system which had proved very successful in Switzerland. To properly appreciate the difference between Switzerland and Australia, one had to imagine one of the States of the Common wealth surrounded by foreign military Powers. In such circumstances, the military spirit was almost an instinct, which needed no stimulus to keep in perpetually active. Militia officers were trained under the Swiss system, and although it involved a period of training much more arduous than that of the ordinary soldier, it was found that the requisite number of officers submitted to the training.

In returning through Canada, Colonel Bridges noted the system prevailing there. He found that the system of governing the military forces by a council was very successful in Canada. The representation of exports on the Canadian Council was stronger than it was in Australia. There did not, however, appear to be much that could be learned from Canada with regard to training men.

MURDEROUS LASCARS.

The Lascar firemen on the steamer "Guthrie," lying at Circular Quay, caused a sensation on board the vessel "Sydney," making a murderous attack on the second engineer in the stokehold. As the result of the assault the victim, Martin McDilroy, is lying in the Sydney Hospital suffering from scalp wounds, cuts, and bruises. A feeling of discontent had been apparent among the Lascars for some days, a number of them averting that they were overworked. This morning McDilroy went below to give some orders when suddenly from all sorts of hiding places, swarthy men sprang at him, brandishing knives and heaving stones. As soon as he saw there was likely to be trouble the second engineer cried for help, but the Lascars were upon him before help could arrive. Vicious lunges were made at him with knives, while a few stones were thrown and crashed alongside his head on the iron.

Hearing a disturbance the officers and a few European seamen were soon in the thick of the battle. The tussle was quickly over, the Lascars beat a precipitate retreat, and McDilroy was got up on to the deck. He was bleeding freely from large wounds on the head, while there was a severe cut near the ankle. The police were on the scene later, and 13 of the firemen were taken into custody. They were lodged in the Water Police Station, where the services of a civil ambulance officer had to be requisitioned to bandage some of the wounds received in the scuffle. The Lascars were charged with disorderly conduct, and each was fined £2. One of the accused, Abbis Ali, was remanded on a charge of having inflicted grievous bodily harm. He was afterwards committed for trial.

MELBOURNE BUILDING TRADES' STRIKE.

Mr. Bent has decided that unless the contractors and employees in the building trade arrive at some arrangement whereby their dispute may be referred to Mr. Justice Truss before the end of this week, he will withdraw that gentleman from the position of chairman of the proposed conference. In the new policy of reopening the building contracts to those willing to work 48 hours per week, the contractors have met with most encouraging success. The number of men who have resumed work is fully 2,000, besides the brickmakers, timber yard employees, carters, and others working in businesses allied with trade, who have been re-engaged through the contracts being again taken in hand. Altogether probably not less than 3,000 men are back at their employment as the result of the reopening of the works. Although the men at work on city jobs are few, they have been increased since Thursday last, when operation were resumed. The eighth distribution of 20s. each to the strikers was made on Saturday, in some cases where distress existed more was given. The statement that a number of good building tradesmen were leaving Western Australia for Melbourne is denied in local trade circles. Mr. J. Coen, Secretary of the Fremantle Trades Hall Association, stated on Saturday that only a few tradesmen had gone to the Eastern States for the Christmas holidays, and that nearly all of them were coming back to Western Australia. He further mentioned that most of the building tradesmen who were leaving Western Australia to seek employment elsewhere were going to South Africa or San Francisco.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Premier referring on Thursday to the financial position of the State, said: "We have the big increase for six months of £840,000, which includes £295,000 of land tax, collected a month earlier this year. Excluding that, the increase of revenue is £550,000. We have loans maturing in January and July next to the extent of £4,000,000, and I have practically got the money to pay them off. Without a penny of the increase I am getting this year I would have a surplus of £400,000 for the last six months. My economies for the last three years are sufficient to give me a surplus of £800,000 without a penny of the increased revenue. The loan expenditure has diminished by nearly £100,000 in six months.

THE ENGLISH MAIL CONTRACT.

Some hitch has occurred in regard to the ships which are to be built to carry out the new English mail contract. According to the terms of the agreement, plans have to be approved by the Commonwealth representatives in London. It appears that Captain Collins who was instructed by the Federal Government to perform this task was not satisfied with the plans which were submitted to him as they were not sufficiently complete in detail. He, therefore, referred them back to the contractors, with a request that they should be returned showing everything in detail. This has occasioned some delay, but the contractors have until July 1908 to provide new ships. The service commences in February 1908 but for the first six months the contractors can make use of any vessels of approved tonnage equal at least to those now employed by the Orient Company. Should the contractors, however, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, fail to make sufficient progress with the construction of the boats, they may be called upon to double the amount of their bond.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY.

Some time ago, a naval engineer, attached to the Defence Department, was sent round to the several States to ascertain if the ships which it is intended to build as the nucleus of an Australian navy could be constructed in our local shipyards. His report which will be made available shortly, is to the effect that, while no such facilities exist at present, there is every indication among those interested in shipbuilding in Australia of a desire to acquire the necessary plant if the financial part of the question can be satisfactorily arranged. The idea would seem to be that the local builders should enter into arrangements with British firms to build the ships in Australia on partnership terms. This matter will form a subject of discussion at an early Cabinet meeting.

Captain Stoke Rees, who has been two year's in charge of the naval establishment at Garden Island, and who is about to return to England, replied to the toast of "The Navy" at the luncheon of the Highland Society. He said that there was magnificent material in Australia, from which to evolve naval men, if they could only get at it. No material, however good in itself, could be of any practical use until it was trained. There was just as good marksmen in Australia as anywhere in the world, but they did not practice. He would like to see instituted such establishments as the great gunnery school at Whale Island, in England.

[By telegraph to Perth.]

CAPTAIN Townley Patten Hume Macartney Filgate died a few days before the mail left at his residence, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, aged 67. During his tenure of the post of Military Secretary to the Governor of Bombay he was offered the important position of Inspector-General of Registration, to which in later years was added the office of Inspector-General of Goals. Accordingly, Captain Macartney Filgate resigned his commission, and entered upon a strenuous career of Indian service, which only closed with his retirement in 1901. He was an able and popular administrator, and won the esteem of all classes of officials, native as well as British. On his final departure from India, five years ago, the Governor of Bombay in Council published a valedictory resolution couched in terms of high eulogy and respect. Outside his official life, Captain Macartney Filgate was a prominent member of the West of India Turf Club, a keen yachtsman, and a Freemason of high degree during his visits to Ireland, he took an active part in the social life and local government of north county Dublin. He married, in 1862, the eldest daughter of the late Sir William Robert Seymour Vesey Fitzgerald, G.C.S.I., some time Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Governor of Bombay.

HYDERABAD NEWS AND NOTES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD, DECCAN, JANUARY 17.

THE NIZAM.

His Highness is expected, according to present arrangements, to return to the Purana Haveli Palace tomorrow evening from Sardarnagar and to stay here till the end of the *Bakr Id*, after which he will proceed to Medak in connection with the opening and inspection of the Mahboob Canal. His Highness will then go back to Sardarnagar and stay there for a few weeks more. According to custom, His Highness distributed during the recent eclipse a few thousand rupees, comprising gifts of elepants, horses, grain, as well cash, and about fifty prisoners were released from jail.

THE MINISTER.

According to reports received, His Excellency the Prime Minister is at present at Nanded on his return journey from Aurangabad, and is expected to arrive here in about three days.

A DISTINCTION.

The Nizam has been graciously pleased to command the promotion of Captain Osman Yar-ud-Daula, Bahadur, Commandant of His Highness' Own Golconda Lancers, to the rank of Major. This is the second occasion on which His Highness has conferred this honour, the first fortunate recipient being the present Military Secretary, Major Mahir-ud-DowBahadur. The young Major is the son of Colonel the Nawab Afsur-ul-Mulk, Bahadur, and the honour done him is evidently in recognition of the successful manner in which he has discharged his duties since the unfortunate motors accident to his father, not only in His Highness' entourage but on the occasion of the visit to Hyderabad of H. R. H. The Landgrave of Hesse and other distinguished visitors.

THE ZENANA SCHOOL.

This institution, which owes its present form—in fact, its existence—entirely to the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Casson Walker, is announced to begin its work from the 1st of February next. Some little time ago the Nizam sanctioned a proposal which emanated from the Native Ladies' Association of Hyderabad for opening a strictly *purda* school for the daughters of the upper classes of the Hyderabad City and its environs. An initial grant of Rs. 1,000 per mensum was asked for and sanctioned. For the post of Head Mistress the Government has been fortunate in securing the services of Miss Jeffery, daughter of a late Bengal Civilian, who has, after undergoing a University education and obtaining honours in the final examinations some five or six years ago, turned her attention to teaching in England and on the Continent. She has also had a short experience of India, and she has now given up charge of the Normal Schoolin Kurseong, Bengal, to take up service under His Highness' Government for a term of three years. She will have for one of her assistants a Native lady who has also received a high class education. The school will be opened on the 1st of next month in the house nearly opposite the Hyderabad Railway Station. The interest which Mrs. Walker takes in the well being of her sisters, both European and Native, are indeed manifold and well-known, and she has now as President of the Ladies' Association placed the public of Hyderabad, especially the middle class community under a lasting debt of gratitude by organiging this institution which had been a long-felt desideratum here.

THE WIDOWS' FUND.

A scheme is now in progress for organizing a fund for the maintenance of widows of the servants of Government who are left destitute and helpless. As the details, however, are not given out, it is not posible to comment upon the same, although there could be no two views regarding the scheme itself We hear sometimes of the grant of pension to a widow here, but they have become rare and generally depend upon influence. The present scheme is said to aim at some definite relief based on general lines.

THE NIZAM-I-JAMAYAT.

About a hundred more hands have been drafted from the Nazim or Irregulars to the various troops of the Regular Force during the last fortnight.

CAPTAIN MACNABB.

Captain Macnabb, Personel Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident, has been vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the Third Class, which is probably done with the object of relieving Captain Minchin, the Second Assistant Resident whose work has been considerably increased by the discontinuance of the arrangements by which the functions of Superintendent of the Residency Bazaars were vested in a separate officer.

THE LATE NAWAB ZAFFER JUNG.

No orders have as yet been issued by the Nizam regarding the administration of the estate of the deceased nobleman, and all his personal property, including jewellery and other valuables, have been locked up by the Police. It is said that at Pissalhunda alone jewels worth some lakhs of rupees were in use of the Nawab at the time of his denise. But for the timely action of the Police, a good deal might have been found missing subsequently.

NAWAB FAKR-UL-MULK, BAHADUR.

Nawab Fakhr-ul-Mulk, Bahadur who went out on a tour of inspection to his jagheers on two weeks' leave from His Highness, has been detained there. It is said he has applied for one week's extension and will be return next Thursday.

THE JUDICIAL SECRETARY,

Nawab Sarbuland Jung, Bahadur, who went to Aurangabad to meet His Excellency the Prime Minister in connection with some official work, has proceeded then, it is said, to Delhi, and will return after the holidays.

MR. FAZIL MURAJ.

Mr. Fazil Muraj, the Chief Engineer of the General Branch has returned from Aurangabad, and has gone to Medak on a final examination of the roads prior to His Highness' visit to that town.

NAWAB FARIDOON JUNG, BAHADUR.

The numerous friends of the popular Private Secretary, are gratified at the advancement his son, Mr. Rustomjee Faridoonji has received at the hands of the Imperial Government by his appointment as Officiating Commissioner of Berar.

SECUNDERABAD, JANUARY 19.

What is a Military Station without its brave army? A scene of desolation—and such has been the case lately in Secunderabad; but now that the troops have returned from the manœuvres, with rosy cheeks, full of health and strength, nothing is good enough for their entertainment. A perfect *repertoire* of amusement has been provided. A dance at the Residency, sports and games at the Futteh Maidan, and a dramatic entertainment at the Theatre. These, and private entertainments too, served up a whole week's round of enjoyment. Mrs. Florence gave a most delightful "At Home" in the very pretty grounds of the Bank House on Monday. There was a large gathering, and the croquet lawn there was the admiration of all and was considered quite the best in the station.

We are very sorry to lose Sir Charles Egerton, as it was the hope of everyone that he would remain in this Command. We take this opportunity of congratulating him on his good fortune, and trust that long life and prosperity and peace await him at home. It is not the first time that a soldier has laid aside the sword for the pen.

We are glad to hear that Dr. Hunt is getting on well. It is not the time of year for enteric, yet we hear there are still many cases in the station. The climate is so perfect at present that one would imagine all sickness should disappear.

Mrs. Lambert's Children's Fancy Dress Dance was a great success, many of the children appearing in new costumes which were in many cases an improvement on the dresses of last year. Mrs. Lambert's little girls looked very pretty in their frocks. Mrs. Hankin's and Mrs. Murray's children also looked well. The little fairies attracted attention and the clowns acted up to their parts.

Since Mrs. Casson Walker's return we hear the *purdah* parties are to be resumed. These parties are much looked forward to by the Native ladies of Hyderabad, and are just as much appreciated by the English ladies.

There was a most enjoyable Ball given at the Residency last night. About two hundred and fifty guests assembled to enjoy the hospitality of our popular Resident and Mrs. Bayley. The arrangements were perfect, both for the carriages and for the tents. Every detail had been well thought out. The space in front of the Residency was carpeted and that saved the shoes of the dancers: the floor was in perfect order—in fact, some found it too slippery, but no chalk had been used, which was a great advantage, as the ladies' frocks proved. The facade of the Residency presented a most brilliant appearance, lit up with many lights, and the marble steps, which have just been completed and are an immense improvement, were carpeted in the centre. The spacious vestibule led into the ballroom—a handsome room, oblong in shape, surrounded by a gallery at the top, and with a handsome and unique ceiling, which was hung with glass chandeliers. The passage off this led into rooms where Bridge tables were placed for the benefit of the non-dancers. There were many retreats for the hot and tired dancers, and several took the opportunity of stargazing or of viewing the aspect of the scene from the roof of the Residency. Dancing was kept up till 2-30, when "Goodnight" was said with many regrets. Supper was provided in an enormous tent: the tables, decorated with lovely roses, were laden with delicacies, and all appreciated the kindness and thoughtfulness with which everything had been arranged.

Mrs. Bayley wore a handsome dress of pale blue trimmed with Honiton lace. Miss Bayley looked very fresh in white satin. Mrs. Hamilton wore a curious mulberry-coloured shade of silk veiled with black chiffon. Miss Bell looked very captivating in white silk covered with lace. Mrs. Vye and Miss Notting wore very becoming wreaths of flowers in their hair, the latter looking very well in pale pink. There were several very handsome white satin and lovely shades of apricot satin dresses. Mrs. Ward in white satin with chiffon and lace. Mrs. Casson Walker, Mrs. Crawford, and Mrs. Little were dressed in grey. One dress was much admired—a French Grey chiffon handsomely trimmed with scintillating embroidery. The men were in uniform, which added considerably to the brilliancy of the scene. The Residency at Hyderabad is said to be the handsomest building of the kind in India and it was shown off to every advantage last night.

COLONIAL NOTES.

South Africa—Cape Colony.

A movement against capital punishment has been proceeding at Cape Town for some time past and has been brought to bear with extraordinary force on the case of a man named Coupar, recently convicted of the murder of his illegitimate infant. As far as Coupar was concerned it has failed in its object, and the newspapers are full of praise for the firmness of the Governor, Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, in refusing a reprieve. A public petition was first presented to the Governor, and was rejected. The mayor then headed a public deputation which waited on Dr. Jameson, the Primier; but Sir Walter still declined to reconsider his decision. A second deputation headed by the mayor was equally unsuccessful. Finally a mass meeting to demand the commutation of Coupar's sentence was held in the City Hall; but in spite of the storm the Governor never wavered and met each demand to reconsider his decision with a definite refusal, declaring that the crime was a brutal and cowardly one. Coupar was accordingly hanged, and the newspapers and responsible opinion now unanimously approve the Governar's determined resistance to popular clamour, and emphasise the responsibility resting on his Excellency's shoulders, seeing that the prerogative of mercy reposes absolutely with him independently of his Ministers. His Excellency, it is declared, has successfully averted a determined attempt to defeat the ends of justice.

A conference of coloured delegates from Cape Colony, Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal will be held at Oudtshoorn on Jan. 7. Besides several questions concerning the interests and rights of coloured people the agenda includes the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the grievances of the coloured population. Among the subjects for discussion are federation as affecting coloured people, equal treatment in schools, abolition of penal labour, a protest against tampering with the Cape franchise, and the establishment of a coloured volunteer corps.

THE TRANSVAAL.—Mr. Smuts, addressing an electoral meeting at Wonderboom on Jan. 2, said that he was in favour of the re-enactment of the Labour Ordinance until a sufficient number of natives could be obtained to take the place of the Chinese, who, however, must go. He did not wish to crippple the mining industry but, in his opinion, the required supply of native labour would be available.

A ruling by the Transvaal Supreme Court discloses the fact that, in relation to the law of extradition, the colony holds a somewhat unique position. Mr. J. M. Stone, a British subject, was arrested in October last, on a warrant issued in German territory by a district imperial judge, and committed by the Pretoria magistrate for extradition. Prisoner appealed on various grounds, but the point on which the case was decided and argued was as to whether the magistrate had power to commit. For the local Attorney General it was submitted that the English Extradition Act of 1870, under which the appellant was dealt with, did not forbid the magistrate exercising jurisdiction, while counsel, in support of the appeal, denied the existence of any statute conferring upon Transvaal magistrates the powers held by police magistrates in England.—Mr. Justice Wessel, who delivered judgment, said that under the Act the powers of a police magistrate in England, in extradition cases, were invested in the Governor of a British Possession. But any Possession could make such modification in the Act as it deemed necessary, and in most colonies a particular statute had been passed investing the magistrates with the powers of police magistrates in England. As such a law did not exist in the Transvaal, a local magistrate had not jurisdiction to commit foreign prisoners for extradition. That power belonged to the Governor. The order of committal must therefore be set aside and the prisoner discharged.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—A manifesto by the new Constitutional party of the Orange River Colony, signed by Sir J. G. Fraser, was issued at Bloemfontein on Dec. 31. The two principal planks in the party platform are opposition to all racialism and co-operation with the Government under the Constitution for the furtherance of the best interests of the country. The manifesto urges co-operation to this end, and declares that the party's sole object is peace and prosperity for land and people. It deprecates any artificial division and every kind of one-sided attempt to obtain power. The party programme includes equal rights for all whites; the treatment of natives with justice and fairness as in the past, but with the provision that the natives should be under local control; adherence to the existing education laws; the resumption of control by the Colony over its railways; the development of agriculture and industries; the encouragement of federation; and adherence to the old mottoes of "Liberty, Patience, Courage, Immigration," as the party's future watchwords. In conclusion the manifesto confidently anticipates renewed prosperity.

CANADA.—The Ottawa correspondent of the *Tribune* says:—It is stated that Lord Strathcona's present visit to the Dominion is made for the purpose of again pressing upon the Canadian Ministers his desire to be relieved of the High Commissionership. This request the Government can scarcely refuse in view of the extreme age and the variety of other calls on the time and strength of the High Commissioner. Last winter and again during the summer, Lord Strathcona urged his resignation, but, under persuasion, he consented to withhold it for the time.

The *Standard*'s correspondent at Ottawa writes:—Considerable feeling has been aroused by the increasing influx of Hindoos into the Dominion. Inasmuch however as these people are British subjects, Canada would wish to be spared the necessity of deporting them. The Government therefore made representations to the Imperial authorities to prevent their coming to the Dominion. The memorandum submitted by the Department of Interior on the immigration of Hindoos to Canada to the Home Government advocates the desirability of this influx from India being discouraged for the following reasons:—

1. The transfer of any people from a tropical climate to a northern one, which for months in winter is damp and cold, must of necessity result in much physical suffering and danger to health, not only on account of nonacclimatisation, but also on account of ignorance in the matter of housing, food, and clothing.

2. The caste system, which is universal among these people, is seriously in the way of their employment, even at work for which they are fitted, at the people for, under, or with whom they must work have no knowledge of the system, and cannot, even if they had such knowledge make due provision for its respect.

3. The winter climate of the interior is such that with their style of living, Hindoos cannot work there during that season, and are, therefore, restricted for winter employment to the Pacific coast, where there is not a sufficient field for those already there.

4. The work for which Hindoos are required is necessarily rough and hard, and not of a character with which they are familiar, or for which they are physically fitted.

5. Although it has been possible for some of those who have already arrived to secure employment, owing to the circumstances mentioned above, many of them have already become objects of charity. It is apparent that, should the immigration continue, large numbers must become a charge either upon the Immigration Department or upon the municipal or provincial authorities in which case they would be subject to deportation under the Canadian immigration laws. Somewhat similar representations were made in the case of the Japanese some years ago, and thus saved the Japanese being placed in the same list as the Chinese, who can only enter Canada by paying a poll tax of 100*l*.

Mr. Devlin, late member for Galway City, has been returned the Dominion House of Commons as member for Nicolet County by a majority of forty. The victory is notewortdy, as, with the exception of about fifty families, the population is French, and Mr. Devlin was total stranger until a few weeks ago. The result is regarded as further evidence of the marvileous hold possessed by Sir Wilfrid Laucier over the French Canadians. It is said that Mr. Devlin will receive a post in the Ministry shortly.

PASSENGERS PER S. S. "VORWAERTS."

The followind passengers arrived here by the Austrian Lloyd's s.s "Vorwaerts" from Trieste and Venice this noon:—Mr. G. Bissin, Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Leber, Miss Leber, Miss Nicholson, Miss Peard and Mr. and Mrs. Winkler.

TO CHAMBA FOR SHORT LEAVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Just about now, lucky people who have two or even three months leave due to them during the disagreeable part of the Bombay year, are perhaps considering where they may go, if they wish to spend it in India.

Having had the advantage of seeing several times, and under comfortable circumstances, a rather unknown part of the hills, and a good shooting district, I think it might be of use to some if I described the place, and ways and means of getting there. I am speaking of a small state called Chamba, to which also belongs Pangi. They are tucked away in the hills behind Dalhousie, and on the borders of Kashmir, and for the traveller who does no wish to go as far as Kashmir, or to whom the very expensive journey in and out from Murree is a consideration, Chamba and Pangi will be found a most excellent substitute. To condense what is coming, it is cheaper, though perhaps a more troublesome journey, the country is situated in a very fine part of the Himalayas, Pangi especially being full of the most beautiful scenery. Chamba is fairly unknown, Pangi decidedly so as a pass of 14,300ft. has to be crossed before getting there. Last of all the shooting is good, of course at the right time of year.

I will describe a three months' trip we had through Chamba to Pangi, and I have never enjoyed or hope to enjoy a trip more. We started from Dalhousie itself, so for the information of travellers from Bombay I may say that the Punjab mail is taken through Lahore and Amritsar to Pathankot where the railway ends. The train arrives in the early hours of the morning, before day breaks, and there is great joy in starting off comfortably tucked into an invalid tonga (which we always think worth the Rs. 4 extra, and far more comfortable than an ordinary one) in the cool mountain air and along the pretty road winding through the low foot-hills. The tonga journey only lasts four hours (how different from the interminable journey into Kashmir), and a very decent dak bungalow at Dunera is reached by breakfast time. From here the road rises for the next twenty-three miles up to Dalhousie, and after breakfast and a very desirable clean-up is finished, the next part of the road is begun either by rickshaw, dhoolie, dandy, or horseback; though the thrilling tales of breakdown on the part of the hill-tat hired out at Dunera, are not encouraging to a new comer. If decent horses can be borrowed or sent on ahead, it is far the least tiring and most amusing way of going up as the road is a good one, thanks to the care of the Military Works Department.

Anybody who has ever been to the hills, knows how these roads windround and round the nullahs, how interminable they seem, and how one turns long-gazed-at corners hopefully, to see long tracts of road vanishing round endless corners far ahead. The last four miles are very steep, through a lovely short cut called Banikhet, and there is much satifaction when Dalhousie is reached late in the evening. The journey costs as follows:—Rs. 20 for the tonga; Rs. 7 for the rickshaw; or Rs. 9 for the dhoolie; and Rs. 7:7 for each ekka for the whole distance from Pathankot.

There are two hotels, and judging from the remarks of the visitors at either Springfield or Starawberry Bank, there is not much to choose between them. In Dalhousie there is one grand store, Saligram and Co., a fairly honest and respectable firm, from whom supplies and stores may be bought. No tents can be hired, they must all be brought up by the traveller, as well as camp furniture and all cooking utensils, china etc. If the trip is only into Chamba it is not necessary to lay in any very large supplies. Saligram has a depot at Chamba town and as the country is small and no march is more than four or five days off, it is possible to get anything that is required. Chicken, sheep, eggs, milk, and potatoes at the right time of year, can be got, and there are little wooden huts dotted at more or less regular intervals all over Chamba, and if the forest officer is tackled in the right way, he will often give permission to use these bungalows, which saves putting up one's tent at each halting place.

When buying sheep in Chamba, too much faith must not be put in the local zemindar. The Rajah once said to us "The people are very simple and child-like," and we could not help telling him of our experience up one nullah, where we were sold a fine large sheep for Rs. 4. We had been expected some time before, and the wily Chambee had kept the wretched animal from any water for a long time, and given it a most comfortable drink, just before we arrived! No wonder it was fat! The result may be better left to the imagination than described.

The Rajah of Chamba is a very high-class Rajput a perfect gentleman, a keen sportman, and willing to put every assistance in his power in the hands of true sportsmen travelling in his domains. His brother the late Rajah, died suddenly about three years ago. Sir Bhurrie Singh the present Rajah, was then placed an the "gadi" by Sir Charlas Rivaz, and had already been given the C.I.E. During the Prince's visit last year, he was made K.C.I.E. He lives in a beautiful little town, built on a little plateau which rises steeply 200 ft. above the river Ravi, and the first view of Chamba from away up on the opposite hill-side, reminds one of a little Swiss town tucked away amongst the big hills, the large new palace with the long open maidan in front, adding to this effect. The whole march from Dalhousie to Chamba is a beautiful one, so beautiful that I have heard people say that there is no other part of the Himalays that surpasses it. It is well worth doing slowly, in two marches.

The first march outof Dalhousie is up through what are called the Wood-sheds, to a spot the most beautiful of all, called Kajia. This is 11 miles from Dalhousie. Here the dak-bunglow looks on a wide circle of glorious deodars stretching up and away on all sides, shimmering in the early morning or early evening light, mysterious with long eery shadows stretching away over turf which would grace the oldest lawn in England. It is an ideal spot, one of these little fairy places nestling into the hills upon which one comes quite suddenly, and which are so restful and that lovely it is hard to tear one's self away. There is a little lake in the centre of the beautiful circle of grass, bordered by the deodar forest, and on the lake a little floating island of rushes, and beside the lake a little Hindu Temple—all most perfect, most peaceful and, alas, so far away.

A custom was relieved last year mostly on General Walter Kitchener's initiative to have a Kajia week. The Rajah comes up from Chamba, and meets the the priuciple officials from Dalhousie as his guests, and a week of sport and gaiety is indulged in: but to my mind Kajia is best enjoyed alone, or not quite alone perhaps. I can imagine no more ideal place in which to pass ones honeymoon, in fact I know one couple who have spent several honeymoons there.

To return to our "muttons," coolies or mules (if procurable) are the best means of conveying ones kit to Chamba.

From Kajia the road continues for a bit through the most delightful forest till one comes round a little corner suddenly, and spread below about 5,000 ft and only three or four miles off is Chamba town. The road goes down and down very steeply, one crosses a fine suspension bridge and climbs the 200 feet of steep ascent and passes under an arch into the town. There is a very fine thoroughly English Residency here to which the Rajah invites his personal friends, also a dak bungalow, and a forest bungalow, but the latter is not available for the casual visitor.

The Rajah has only within the last two years started controlling the shooting in Chamba; before that there was no licence required and only some nullahs were kept closed for particular use. Now, however, having found this fact taken advantage of by the impecunious, who settled for three months leave in Chamba and fed on gonral, the Rajah has been obliged to enforce certain rules, and a license has to be get for the sum of Rs. 25, and only 60 guns are allowed into Chamba during the year. This at least was the rule two years ago, unless it has been modified or enlarged since.

The great speciality of Chamba is the "thar," an animal of the goat tribe, which lives on particularly bad ground. This animal is almost peculiar to Chamba, and a great Bombay shikaree, Colonel Olivier, spent one leave up there on purpose to add these heads to his already magnificent collection. Black bear, red bear, serau and goural are also common, together with the usual hill birds, pheasants of several kinds, including that most beautiful of all, the minal pheasant. Of course, it is no use going at the wrong time of year or trying to shoot without counting the cost or fatigue. The game does not wander round near the bungalows waiting to be shot, and except for a sportsman whose head is a steady one, the going is distinctly bad, especially after "thar." But the animals are there. I copied the following verses from the wall of a little forest bungalow at Kadel, two marches from Chambs, written by some previous shikaree. I have often wondered by whom:—

"I shall start in the dawn of the morning,
With a ballast of porridge and tea,
I shall flash from my mast-head a warning
Would sportsmen but listen to me;
For Chamba I leave thee, not scorning,
But there's nothing worth shooting in thee."

Underneath is written this reply:—

"Do not heed him, sporting reader,
Though his tone be low and sweet,
He has missed his game, the breezer,
Or he could not use his feet.

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

(CONCLUDED.)

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION.

London, January 6.—Canada expects a quarter of a million immigrants during 1907. Twenty-five Canadian farmers are visiting England to conduct a propaganda in the agricultural districts.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

London, January 6.—In his letter to the Anti-Socialist Democratic Union Prince von Buelow made a significant reference to "Robespierre being inevitably followed by Napoleon's sword, which let France free." This caused considerable excitement in political circles, it being denounced as menacing, implying a military coup if the Socialists are successful at the election. The rivalries and dissensions within the ranks of the Liberals are in striking contrast to the solidarity of the Centre and the Social Democrats.

THE CAPE GOVERNORSHIP.

London, January 6.—The Hon. Sir Walter F. Hely Hutchinson's term as the Governor of the Cape has been extended to 1909.

RE-CHARTING THE PACIFIC.

London, January 6.—The United States Government have undertaken to prepare fresh charts of the Pacific Ocean owing to the recent earthquakes having altered the currents.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

THE ceremony of "cutting the first sod" of the Franco-British Exhibition, which is to be opened at Shepherd's Bush in May, 1908, took place, on January 3rd, The exhibition will be representative of science arts, and industries, and games, sports, and amusements are also to be provided on a large scale. Over 140 acres of ground have been acquired for the purpose. The principal entrance will be in Uxbridge Road, between the Shepherd's Bush station of the Central London Railway and the Uxbridge Road station of the West London Extension Railway. The first sod was turned by Comte H. de Manneville, as representing the French Ambassador. There was a large gathering to witness the ceremony, which took place in a tent lined with red, white and blue draperies and hung with Union Jacks.

The Mayor of Hammersmith (Mr. E. C. Rawlings) presided; and the company included the Duke of Argyll, hon. president of the organising committee; Sir James Blyth, chairman; Mr. Imre Kiralfy, hon. secretary; Lord Knutsford, Hon. Arthur Stanley, M. P. Mr. Charles Charleton, Mr. C. Freeman Murray, Sir Isidore Spielman, Sir W. Bull, M. P., Mr. Hayes Fisher, Alderman Mulholland, Professor William Rose, M. Jean Perier, M. Leon Clere, Sir E. Noel Walker, Mr. John G. Jenkins, Agent General for South Australia, Mr. T. A. Coghlan, Agent-General for new South Wales, and Mr. G. Wimper, contractor for the erection of the buildings. Lord Derby, the president of the exhibition, sent the following telegram:—"Regret am detained in Lancashire and cannot attend ceremony to-day."

The Chairman said he was sure the exhibition would bring this country and France into even more intimate friendly relations, and largely increase the trade between the two nations. The exhibition was not organised for anybody's private gain. All the profits would be given to some great charity or public institution, or would be employed in some way to perpetuate the present friendly, social, and commercial intercourse between France and England. (Cheers.) He could promise that the greatest possible good will towards the exhibition would be shown by the people of the borough of Hammersmith; and they would co-operate to the utmost with the promoters to make it a success. (Cheers.)

The Duke of Argyll said he wished to place in the forefront of his remarks the important point of the accessibility of the exhibition grounds. The first question people asked in regard to any exhibition was, how were they to get to it? In this case the exhibition would be served by the railway stations belonging to nine separate and distinct lines, which would connect it, not only with every district of London, but also with all parts of Great Britain. He was told the calculation of the railway companies was that they could carry about 80,000 every hour, and that should be sufficient to satisfy the most exigent of mankind. (Laughter.) French exhibitions were always a success, for the French people had the secret of making such things irresistibly attractive. At Earl's Court the two exhibitions that paid hand over hand were the French and the American. Buffalo Bill, no doubt, had a great deal to do with the success of the latter. (Laughter.) There would be amusements of all descriptions in connection with the Franco-British Exhibition. It was hoped that the great international sports which were held this year at Athens would be held in 1908 in the exhibition grounds. (Cheers.) No one could better organise them than his friend W. H. Grenfell, who now called himself Lord Desborough. (Cheers and laughter.)

The silver spade, with ebony handle, the gift of the contractor, was then given to Comte de Manneville. It contained the inscription:—"Presented to his Exellency the Ambassador of the French Republic, Monsieur Paul Camben, on the occasion of the cutting of the first sod for the constructional work of the Franco British Exhibition, 1908, at Shepherd's Bush, London, on Thursday, Jan. 3, 1907, by the executive committee and the first contractor of works, Mr. George Wimpey." The Duke of Argyll, in handing over the spade, stated that the French Ambassador intended to have performed the ceremony, but he had been obliged to go to Paris. The exhibition had no more warmer supporter than his Excellency.

Comte de Manneville speaking in French, said that the French Ambassador took the greatest interest in the project of the exhibition, and it was a cause of deep chagrin to him to be prevented by the necessities of his business in Paris from performing the ceremony of cutting the first sod. For himself he was very happy and proud to undertake that duty, but he felt he should fail to acquit himself properly in its discharge if he did not tell them again of the good wishes of M. Cambon for the entire success of the exhibition. It had been said that the exhibition would be the visible seal to the *entente cordiale*. He trusted that might be the case. But he hoped also for something more. It was his wish that the exhibition should be the commencement of an *entente* still more *cordiale*. That might very naturally prove to be the case, seeing that the *entente* would extend to politics, commerce, science, letters, and arts; and, meeting upon that common ground in the exhibition, the representatives of France and England—who were bound to meet on all the grounds of human activity—would learn to appreciate one another justly, would understand how much good they might learn from one another, and discover in what each was best. He hoped that the English Colonies would rise, as the French Colonies certainly intended to do, to the occasion afforded them by the exhibition of showing their industries and the capabilities of their soils. He thought the contemplated international sports were an element that would contribute not a little to the success of the exhibition. The opponents in such struggles always came out the best of friends. He was convinced that the undertaking he was about to inaugurate in the name of the French Ambassador would realise a magnificent harvest of wealth, prosperity, and happiness for France and England. (Cheers.)

The first sod was then turned by Comte de Manneville amid loud cheers,

The Duke of Argyll proposed a vote of thanks to the representative of the French Ambassador.

Sir W. Ball, M. P., as the representative of the borough of Hammersmith, seconded the vote of thanks. It would be interesting to watch how the genius of Mr. Imre Kiralfy would turn the 140 acres of the grounds into a fairy palace of delight, and incidentally add another lung to London. A committee of the people of Hammersmith had been formed to look after the comfort of foreign visitors, and to save them from extortionate charges a carefully selected list of apartments would be placed at their disposal.

Alderman Mulholland also promised on behalf of the inhabitants of Hammersmith their hearty co-operation with the executive committee especially in regard to the accommodation of visitors. The Olympic Games were certain to attract an enormous number of visitors from all parts of the world.

Comte de Manneville, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that all classes of the French people were showing a deep interest in the exhibition.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor of Hammersmith proposed by Sir J. Cookburn and seconded by Sir I. Spielmann, was also adopted.

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY, WOOLWICH.

The following are declared by the Civil Service Commissioners to be the successful candidates at the competitive examination held in November and December 1906 for admission to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich; but their admission is conditional on their passing a medical examination, which will be held in London shortly:—

Wright, R G	7,243
Playfair, the Hon L G H L	7,181
Smith, A G	7,039
Finnimore, A C	6,944
Egerton, R R	6,915
Blyth, J D	6,915
Milner, R J N	6,853
Godfrey, M van S	6,834
McDonald, H S	6,815
Wellesley, E V C W	6,804
Pyne, R G	6,703
Wilson, E W G	6,665
Carmichael, G I	6,623
Orewson, W T O	6,589
Love, R H & D	6,496
Pakenham-Walsh, R P	6,339
Geary, H N G	6,487
Joyce, F H de V	6,425
Martin, E T	6,409
Shaw, H A	6,371
Fitzpatrick, N T	6,360
Pinney, G A	6,360
Heath, F P	6,328
Kantzow, J E de	6,328
Butterworth, B M G	6,286
Robson, R G G	6,284
Chaytor, F C	6,229
Cochran, D I	6,208
Green, G A L	6,160
Leach, R S	6,151
Rolfe, I H	6,147
Whiteley, E C	6,146
Sealy, E M W	6,132
Richmond, R L	6,090
Dunhill, C M G	6,072
King-King, E I	6,063

THE LADIES' CORNER.

DECORATIVE CANDLE-SHADES.

THERE is a great art in decorating a table effectively, and it should always be remembered that originality is of importance. Table decorations must harmonize with the entire colouring of the room, and should never clash with any hue of flowers or china used in the course of the dinner. During the present holiday season holly and mistletoe claim a part in dining-room decorations, and they may be most effectively disposed upon candle shades or electric lamps. Small green or white shades are charming when finished with tops and edges of real holly or mistletoe. A touch of green is always pretty and the fashion of green and white table decoration is extremely popular. Shades may be made of silk poppy-leaves, like an inverted poppy, with creamy crepe silk petals tinged with green and edged all around the border of each with clear green. Autumn leaves make lovely shades, and they are of the latest ideas in table decorations. The leaves are fastened over a paper shade, finished with a small wreath round the top. Some very beautiful effects are produced by merely mixing candle-shades of one colour with those of another. Shades of rose-pink, blended with cream-coloured satin finished with a ribbon at the top and a rose-coloured fringe at the bottom, make a lovely effect. The little old-fashioned shades of tulle and chiffon and artificial flowers have almost entirely disappeared. The new shades are not so inflammable and are far more artistic in form and colour, as well as more decorative.

DAINTY NEGLIGEES.

There seems no end to the extravagances possible in the realm of the negligé, and each season these becoming gowns become more elaborate and more luxurious than those of the season before. A number of delightful models in soft silks, in crepe, in lace, and in chiffon, enriched with hand embroideries and fine laces, are to be seen just now in the shops. The variety in these materials is positively bewildering, and, though on every side there is temptation to extravagance, there are gowns to be had for sums comparatively modest. Dainty little matinees can be had at all prices, and if one has the money and the inclination a tea gown of delicate peach pink chiffon broadcloth, with scalloped edges embroidered by hand, will prove very tempting. Embroidered garlands and lovers' knots wander along above the scallops, lace trills show under the robe edges, and soft, wide floating ribbons fasten the robe at the throat. Flowered materials have found favour for these garments, and they are to be had in all the latest tints, and are considered extremely chic.

THE WEATHER.

TELEGRAPHIC WEATHER AND CROP REPORTS, JANUARY 21ST.

Amritsar.—Bright, no sign of rain. Wheat and rape-seed doing well. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Bhatinda.—Looks like clearing up. More rain wanted generally. All crops doing well. Crop prospects generally good.

Delhi.—Cloudy, but no rain. All crops doing well.

Agra.—Looks like rain. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Cawnpore.—Bright, no sign of rain. All crops doing well.

Benwar.—Mornings cold and dewy. Cotton arriving in small quantities.

Amraoti.—Seasonable. Expect improvement in crops owing to seasonable weather.

Khamgaon.—Dewfall insufficient. Cotton picking general. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Dhulia.—Bright, no sign of rain. Mornings cold and dewy.

Broach.—Seasonable. Cotton picking commenced and arrivals expected early in small quantities.

Viramgam.—Seasonable. Cotton plants showing bolls. Crop prospects generally good.

Wadhwan.—Unusually cold. Dewfall insufficient. Cotton plants flourishing, showing bolls and want fine weather. Cotton healthy and picking commenced.

Barsi.—Bright, no sign of rain. Cotton crop excellent. Food-grains doing well. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Sholapur.—Mornings cold and dewy. Food-grains suffering from want of rain.

Hubli.—Bright, no sign of rain. Mornings cold. Cotton plants flourishing. Wheat requires fine weather.

Bellary.—Mornings cold and dewy. Cotton plants show bolls rapidly ripening.

STANDARD BAROMETER READING.

The following information is published in order that vessels in the Bombay Harbour may by comparison with a standard instrument, ascertain the errors of their barometers.

The reading of barometer at the Colaba observatory corrected for index error and reduced to 32° F. and for Calcutta standard at 8 a.m., (local time) on the 21st of January 1907 was 30·018. The height of observatory barometer cistern above Zero of tide-gauge at the Apollo Bunder is 47 feet. The height of tide in the stream above Zero of the tide-gauge at Apollo Bunder was 5 at 9 a.m., (local time). The temperature correction for a mercurial barometer supposing the reading to be 30·00 and that of attached thermometer 80° F. will be ·14 and this will be higher or lower by ·01 for each 1°. In the case of Aneroid no temperature correction is required. Should the height of barometer cistern, either mercurial or aneroid, above Zero of tide-gauge be different from 47 feet, it will read higher or lower by ·01 for each 11 feet. The readings given above are distinct from those given in the daily weather report to which different corrections have been applied.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A. M., ON MONDAY 21ST JANUARY.

SUMMARY.

Pressure has fallen briskly at Lahore and Jacobabad and has changed by small amounts elsewhere.

Winds are variable in direction and the force has been fresh to strong at Negapatam and moderate to light elsewhere.

Temperature.—The variations of the maximum show an excess of 6° to 11° at Jhansi, Jacobabad, Jaipur, Deesa, Ahmedabad and Neemuch, while those of the minimum a defect of 5° to 6° at Akola, Nagpur and Deesa on an excess of 5° to 9° in Sind and at Bushire and Khandwa. The highest temperature in the shade was 92° at Surat and the lowest 45° at Jubbulpore.

Cloud and Humidity.—The sky is cloudy at Bushire, Lahore, Sirsa, Jacobabad and Trichinopoly.

Rain.—Bushire reports light rain.

Weather is fine over the whole country except in the Persian area, the Punjab and the Indus Valley where it is cloudy and unsettled.

N. LESLIE
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a. m. yesterday, give the following results :—

Wards.	Plague Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	0	0	9
B Mandvi, Chakla, Gomeshdali and Dongri	3	2	13
C Market, Bhoiti Talao Vanawady, Bhuleshwar Khara Talao, and Kumbharwada ..	2	2	17
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar, and Malabar Hill	2	0	5
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	1	1	22
F Parel, Sewree and Sion.....	1	1	5
G Mahim and Worli	0	0	5
Water Division.....	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown ..	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	2	8
Total.....	9	8	87
Total plague deaths to date ..	130,256		
Same date last year.....	9	7	95

MR. J. KNOWLES, writing from Eastbourne to the *Christian*, makes a plea for some simple form of common printed language, "by which the 250 million illiterates in in India may be supplied with some portion of Scripture in such simple letters that any average man, woman or child may learn to read them in one single day." He goes on to say "with thirty-five simple types, formed after the model of 'Oriental Braille,' it is possible accurately to transliterate every vernacular; and to each of these types similar signs are given to similar sounds, the letters are quickly learned. Even these thirty-five types could be reduced in number and simplified. With about twenty-four simple signs every tongue in India could have its sounds represented, so that the illiterate could learn their meaning in a few hours, and begin reading. It is to be borne in mind that the people know the words when spoken, so that all that is necessary is to provide signs to represent the sounds."

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

For health, beauty and luxury, use the "Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap," which Lady Constance Howard writes, "is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the Skin." Also Testimonials from Countess Dorothy Arthurst, Lady White, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Nevill and many others. Delicately perfumed. Warning.—When buying the Albion Milk & Sulphur Soap see that the name and figure head are on the wrapper sold by Chemists, Grocers, &c.,

BY THE WAY.

WOMAN'S THREE WIVES.

OFFICIAL proof is forthcoming that Nicolas de Rayian, once Secretary to the Russian Consul at Chicago, and who died recently in Arizona, was not a man, as every one supposed, but a woman. De Rayian, for some reason best known to herself left Russia disguised as a man, and as a man there is abundant testimony to prove she lived ever since, even marrying three times without apparently undeceiving "his" wives. This is explained by the statement that De Rayian suffered from consumption, and there was an ante-nuptial fact in each case providing that the couple should live "as man and wife in name only." According to medical testimony received on Saturday, De Rayian carried the deception of her dual personality to the brink of the grave, and only after death was the secret disclosed.

"GHOULISH OPERATIONS."

The historic mound at Clontarf, near Dublin, the legendary site of the great battle between King Brian Boru and the Danes 900 years ago, formed the subject of a midnight meeting on Tuesday in Clontarf town hall, where the national societies of Dublin were represented, with the object of protesting against what was described as an atrocious act of vandalism on the part of the city council. The speakers, who addressed the meeting in Gaelic, complained that the Dublin Corporation Distress Committee had put a large number unemployed to work at levelling the famous mound, known as Conquer Hill, and filling up the adjoining fosse. The hill was the burying-place of the chieftains who fought under King Brian, and should, therefore, as one speaker said, be regarded as sacred. After deciding to call a monster indignation meeting for Sunday, a resolution was adopted protesting against the "unspeakable act of vandalism which was being perpetrated by the Corporation of Dublin by levelling the venerated and historic mound under which have reposed, for 900 years the relics of the Irish heroes who fell at the battle of Clontarf," at calling upon the citizens of Dublin to "take means, to put a stop to these ghoulish operations, and to restore the mound to its original position." A telegram was despatched to the Lord Mayor demanding the immediate withdrawal of the workmen.

HINTS AND REMINDERS.

To prevent shoes from making holes in the heels of stockings, sew a piece of wash-leather inside the heels of the shoes. To clean a whitewashed ceiling mix starch and water into paste, and apply it to a ceiling with a piece of soft flannel. Leave to dry and then rub it off lightly with a brush. The blackness will come off with the starch. To remove ink stains cover the damaged article as soon as possible with a teaspoonful or common salt, pour a small quantity of milk over this and well rub with the finger several times into the affected parts. Let the article soak all night in salt and milk, and then wash and boil for 20 minutes, and the stain will disappear. Dry salt, applied with a flannel will clean an enamelled bath which has become stained. Wash well afterwards. To save the fatigue usually experienced when ironing, stand on a thick, soft mat. This is a great preventive of aching feet on ironing day. If when measuring medicine by drops the lip of the bottle be wetted the contents will drop more evenly, and be counted easily. Windows can be nicely polished with an old newspaper. Fold the paper into a pad, wet it and squeeze out as you would a sponge. Rub it vigorously over the glass, taking care that the paper is not so wet as to cause streams of water to trickle down. After being well rubbed let the glass rest for a few minutes, and then burnish it with a dry newspaper.

THE DRUCE CASE AGAIN.

Great expectations will be aroused by the report that a new trial of the Druce-Portland case is to take place at such time as the business of the Law Courts permits. When the case was last heard Mrs. Anna Maria Druce sought to prove that her husband's father was the eccentric fifth Duke of Portland who was on several occasions to have described himself as Thomas Charles Druce. It that could be established, it was supposed, would be the right of heir to the Duke's estates and wealth, which have passed to the present Lord Howard de Walden. Mrs. Druce's theory involved the suggestion that Thomas Charles Druce, who was supposed to have died in 1864 and the fifth duke, who died in 1879 were one and the same person. The proposal to open the graves to show whether or not there was a coffin-interment was abandoned owing to the appearance of a new claimant from Australia, Mr. George Holamby Druce. Mr. Druce asserts that Thomas Charles Druce was his grandfather; that the eccentric duke was married under that name to Elizabeth Cracknell, at Bury St. Edmunds, and that he is the legitimate heir. It is a case of millions and the peerage.

SALVAGE OF SUNKEN SHIPS

Engineers in this city are much interested in a new invention for refloating sunken vessels, which will, it is believed, revolutionise salvage work. The new process was first successfully adopted with the Allan liner "Bavarian," which after lying stranded on the rocks in the St. Lawrence river for more than a year, was brought off last month. The idea was conceived from the "compressed air" method of building piers below the water line. The vessel to be worked upon was all her upper works made perfectly tight, and then air under great pressure is forced into the holds. By this means the water is gradually driven out at the leaky holes, and the vessel rises being artificially and temporarily lighter than water rises to the surface. The Bavarian, a vessel of 10,387 tons burden, worth £30,000, stranded in the St. Lawrence at the commencement of November, 1905. For many months underwriters had employed every known salvage process, but in vain. The pontoon method had been tried for weeks together without success. Lighters and chains had been used, but had quite failed, and the stowing of empty air chambers in the holds had also been tried without effect, until underwriters had at length abandoned hope, and had settled a total loss upon her. Then the discoverers of the new salvage method assed to be allowed to work upon the Bavarian and at the expenditure of only £,000', she was safely brought off in the middle of last month. Naturally the big British marine insurance companies and the underwriters in Lloyd's are much interested in the discovery, and it is believed that many vessels which have hitherto been written off as lost can be saved. It is suggested that Lloyd's should buy the rights, and themselves undertake the work in the future.

CHARIVARIA FROM "PUNCH."

Orders have been issued for the destruction of Army stores in South Africa to the value of £9,000, on the ground that they have so far deteriorated as to be unfit for consumption. One cannot feel too grateful that in these days of economy it did not occur to the authorities to transfer these provisions to the Volunteers.

We cannot help thinking that in some quarters dislike of the Upper House is carried beyond the limits of common-sense. For instance, the other day the *Daily News* in discussing the attitude of the Lords, to the Education Bill, remarked. They have altered more lines than were in the original Bill.

There is no doubt, a correspondent points out, that the Lords are now really frightened, and in support of his contention, he mentions how few of them are now to be seen walking about in their coronets and robes. They are skulking in mufti.

Servia is obviously tiring of King Peter, and we understand that all future monarchs who may be engaged by that State will be given clearly to understand that they are liable to be dismissed on a month's notice, or on payment of a month's wages inlieu of notice.

Nature it is well known, resents any interference with her laws. We have just had a striking example of this. A theatrical company at Warrington succeeded in producing "Sunday" on Monday. The following day the theatre was burnt down.

Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane has ruled that no man ought to strike his wife, and it is rumoured that his Court is to be placarded with notices bearing the words I forbid the banns.

THE MISSING WORD.

The *Liverpool Post* states that a few days ago Lady Balfour of Burleigh opened a golf bazaar, at which she quoted a couple of verses which she thought might interest golfers. They were these:—

I shot a golf ball into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
Long I sought it, and in the end
I used a word which I won't defend.

Shortly afterwards into the bole
I found the ball I had chanced to roll;
And then the word which I won't defend
I heard again from the mouth of my friend.

BEFORE leaving Calcutta Admiral Sir Edmund Poe wrote to the Vice Chairman of the Port Commissioners formally thanking him and the Commissioners for the courtesy and kindness extended to the officers of the *Hermes* during her recent visit to [illegible] and also asking him to convey his best thanks to Lieutenant F. Lovell, R. N. R., Acting Deputy Conservator of the Port, for his attention during the visit.

ENGLAND would appear to be threatened with a new terror, viz., the gooseberry disease. Mr. Rowlands having asked in the House of Commons on the 21st ultimo whether the Board of Agriculture had received any reports that the instructions sent out by the Board with a view to the prevention of gooseberry disease had had a good effect, or whether it was deemed necessary for more definite action to be taken, Sir E. Strachey, who represents the Department in the House of Commons, said :—"It is too soon to say whether the recommendations issued by the Board will prove sufficient to prevent the introduction or spread of the disease. The position is being carefully watched, and if it should appear that further powers are necessary to deal with the disease, the Board will not hesitate to ask for them."

THE TWO SERVICES.

The cruise of the battleship "Dreadnought," is intended to be purely for experimental purposes. Although the ship was subjected to an exhaustive series of gun-steam, and manœuvring tests immediately after being commissioned with a nucleus crew, these were conducted by experts from the Gunnery School at Whale Island and the engineer contractors' representatives. Now, however, that she is a fully-commissioned unit and her ship's company have had time to "shake down" and to become acquainted with the many innovations embodied in the "Dreadnought," the Admiralty have wisely decided to send her on a thirteen weeks' cruise, during which the general equipment will be tested under seagoing conditions by her own crew. Representing, as the "Dreadnought" does a new type of ship, there is much to learn about her, and this can best be done by sending her on an independent cruise, so that her movements, will not be interfered with by accompanying units. Naturally a good deal of attention will be devoted to the turbine system of propulsion, with which object in view the engine-room department has been specially staffed; and an equally important feature of the cruise will consist of putting the single type of armament through further test. The data which the cruise will furnish in regard to these and other characteristics of which the "Dreadnought" is, so far, the only embodiment, will afford the Admiralty much valuable information which, if necessary, can be applied to the squadron of "Dreadnoughts" now in course of creation.

The Navy Board of the United States, who realised the importance of good shooting from naval guns in a greater degree than our own Board of Admiralty five years ago, and appointed "a director of target practice" two years in advance of us, have recently issued the result of the target practice of the American Navy during 1905. It is impossible, of course, to make any exact comparison between the shooting of our own naval gunners and those of the United States Navy, since Rear-Admiral Sir Percy Scott and Lieutenant-Commander Sims probably have a different system for calculating points. They both adopt, however, the method of grouping the results of their practice from different vessels in the same fleets and squadrons, and award these both their place of merit in the Navy as a whole. This year the "Asiatic fleet of the American Navy claims first place, with a figure of merit of 110.127. It is well to remember, in view of this piece of information, that Admiral Moore is happily pulling up the standard of our own fleet in China after an unfortunate retrogression during recent years. The second place in the United States competition is taken by the "Atlantic Fleet," whose figure of merit is 96.665, while the "Pacific Squadron" comes third with 95.799. The "Wisconsin" won the battleship trophy with 137·925 points, and the "Baltimore" the cruiser trophy with 141·102, an even higher figure of merit. The gunboat trophy was won by the "Dolphin" with 144·762, the highest figure of any ship in the American Fleet which engaged in trophy firing. It is also noticeable that the Americans extend their trophy competitions to torpedo craft, with guns and torpedoes, and torpedoes alone—a plan which the torpedo specialists may well bestir themselves and copy.

There is good reason to believe that when the "big divisions" of the Expeditionary Force are constituted, the artillery will be placed upon a much better footing in relation to the divisional command. This at least is believed to be the intention, and the increased number of batteries makes it eminently desirable or even necessary that an artillery commander should be on the staff of each division. This, indeed, has been a great necessity under the present organisation, which has given no direct chain of command between the artillery and infantry, save that most of the artillery is under the command of the divisional general. This officer may, or may not have a technical knowledge of artillery questions, but in the artillery it is held that in war he would have far too much to do to be able to direct the fire tactics of the artillery brigades under his command. When instead of two brigades there are three, the existing system will have become impossible. There is required a satisfactory link between the infantry and artillery and upon the efficiency of this arrangement must depend the solution of many tactical problems which now devolve either on some officer of the divisional staff perhaps unqualified and already having his hands full, or upon the senior artillery brigade commander These arrangements are unsatisfactory makeshifts, and unless altered would be only too likely to lead to a defective handling of the guns. A makeshift arrangement was had to take the place of the sound organisation which exists in other European armies. This artillery officer is not alone necessary in war; he must have an existence in peace. Fortunately under the proposed arrangement it is probable that commandants of artillery camps may be available to assume the important artillery duties upon the staff of generals commanding divisions.

A correspondent asks us to give further publicity to some criticism of Mr. Haldane's policy, which appeared in the *Tribune* from the pen of Sir John Cameron Lamb C.B., C. M. G., who described himself as a "Liberal and a Democrat." We can find space only for the following extract :—Led by Ministers and a large section of the press, the Liberal party seems to be committing itself to the cry against compulsory military training, and unconsciously waiting for that "national necessity" (i.e. disaster) which Mr. Haldane contemplates as something by which we may in the distant future be "driven" into compulsion. The advocates of compulsory military training do not think that the country can do without its regular army, enlisted on the voluntary principle and they have no desire to prejudge the plans which Mr. Haldane may lay before the House of Commons for expanding that voluntary Army in times of stress. But what they say is that the plans will not be successful unless they have as their basis the military training of the whole manhood of the nation. The Prime Minister himself is reported to have said in the House of Commons that "the personal duty of the defence of the sanctity of our country and homes ought to be the duty of every man capable of carrying arms;" and Mr. Haldane has, I believe, expressed a wish to see "a nation of arms." The difference between these gentlemen and the advocates of compulsion is that on one side reliance is placed on the individual, while on the other it is placed on the united will of the nation. On one side : "Trust each man to realise his duty"; and on the other: "Individual responsibility has failed, as it did in education: therefore, ask the nation, ask a whole to agree to compulsion, just as you did in the case of education.

The Irish regiments will now do well to look out for danger to their cherished shamrock. Scotland has been flouted in the matter of the Scots Greys, who are to be withdrawn, and a prodigious amount of national feeling has been created. The Welsh papers are up in arms at the abolition of the famous "flash" of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which by royal favour escaped the reforming zeal of the authorities in 1834. It has been worn with the service dress, but that will no longer be allowed. It appears to be mere ineptitude to remove the "flash" of the officers of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers if they wish to retain it, as we have no doubt they do, and if worn with the Service dress it need not be worn on active service. It was continued in this regiment as a particular honour, and as such has been cherished. Mr. Haldane should see to it that his subordinates do not offend national or local sentiment either in regard to the "flash" or any other valued distinction or privilege.

The regulations for the examinations for entrance to Woolwich and Sandhurst are not giving the satisfaction which the Advisory Board expected would result from the introduction of the scheme some twelve months ago. The object of the qualifying examination is to secure a fair standard of general education, so that the Army candidate, if he should fail at his entrance examination, will not have been in any way disqualified for turning to some other walk in life. As a matter of fact, the subjects chosen are such as to make it necessary for boys to specialise at an early age, not being the same as the subjects read on the classical or modern side of public schools. Moreover, candidates under the present system come up insufficiently prepared in mathematics, and youths passing into Woolwich may have no more than a superficial a quaintance with elementary geometry, trigonometry, and statistics. This is not as it should be, because it is highly important for candidates for Woolwich to be well grounded in mathematics, as was the case under the old system. As a writer in the *Times* recently said, the results are disastrous, since candidates, to obtain adequate marks in their competitive examinations, must confine their time of preparation to a constant repetition of almost identical questions, get them and they go on to their next stage of the training at the military schools armed with nothing more than a few formulæ which they do not properly understand. The matter should be looked into, but we do not advocate any rash changes. What is required is that the existing system should be revised and placed upon a better footing, especially in regard to the mathematical preparation of candidates for Woolwich.

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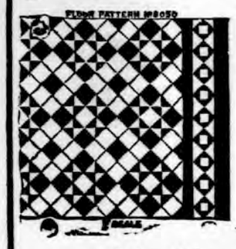

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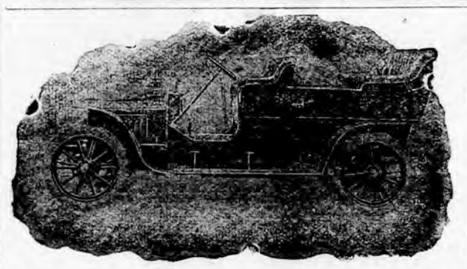

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AGENTS.—LONDON: GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill E.C.; Messrs. D. J. KEYMER & Co., 2, Whitefriar's Street, LONDON, E.C.; Messrs. WILLIAM J. KEYMER & Co., 69 Fleet Street, LONDON, E.C.—Paris: Messrs. GALIGNANI & Co.—Publishers, Rue de Rivoli—CALCUTTA: Messrs. THACKER, SPINK & Co.